

Perry said to tone it down

ASHLEY PARKER

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NASHUA, N.H. – When Gov. Rick Perry of Texas finished up a round-table discussion Wednesday at a manufacturing company here, one man was so impressed that he leapt from his seat, offering the governor high



Republican presidential candidate, Texas Gov. Rick Perry speaks in Bedford, N.H., Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2011.
(AP Photo/Cheryl Senter)

praise. Perry, the man said, had come across as “very moderate,” especially compared with the caricature of him in the news media as somewhere to the “right of Attila the Hun.” Perry – who once mused about Texas seceding from the country he now wishes to run – has never been known for his moderation. But voters in New Hampshire on Wednesday expecting to meet the man with a blustery confidence and down-home twang were greeted with a far more subdued and measured campaigner, one who stayed mostly on message about getting “America working again” and refused to answer questions from reporters. “I got in trouble talking about the Federal Reserve yesterday,” Perry said to laughter at a Politics and Eggs breakfast in Bedford, referring to his sharply criticized comments suggesting that the actions of Ben S. Bernanke, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, were potentially “treasonous.”

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Columbine Redux



Plot to bomb school described in journal

Tampa Police Chief Jane Castor speaks during a morning news conference concerning Jared Cano, charged with a variety of charges including possession of bomb making materials, in Tampa, Fla., Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2011. Tampa police have arrested Cano, an expelled student, after thwarting what they deemed a potentially “catastrophic” plot to set off a bomb at his former high school and cause mass casualties on the first day of classes next week, authorities said Wednesday.
(AP Photo/The Tampa Tribune, Cliff McBride)



Wipe on, wipe off:

March of the towelettes!

STEPHANIE ROSENBLOOM

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Want to simplify your beauty routine? Wish you could zoom through airport security without a Ziploc bag of little bottles?

Perhaps it's time to revisit the wipe. No, not the moist, lemony towelette you use to degrease your fingers after gnawing on hot wings. That's the old wipe. The new wipe is bigger, softer and engineered to do the work of nearly any bottled beauty product.

These upscale wipes are infused with sunscreen, self-tanner, hair serum, deodorant. They remove nail polish, dirt, maybe even wrinkles. And they are becoming ubiquitous as brands scramble to satisfy consumer demand.

"A year ago they weren't as mainstream and available for multiple purposes," said Tracy Ogden, a spokeswoman for Amazon.com's Health and Personal Care, and Beauty divisions, where a search for beauty wipes turns up about 800 results. "Now customers can buy wipes for anything."

Are these towelettes a

alfresco brunches and impromptu strolls. And packing for vacations would be much simpler: no more playing chemist in the bathroom, siphoning lotion into

Sunscreen Swipe. Good-bye, messy lotions that turn his olive skin Kabuki white. I liked Dr. Dennis Gross Skin-care's Powerful Sun Protection SPF 30 towelettes be-

fingertips. The best brand will depend on your skin color. I'm fair, and Sonia Kashuk's Sunless Tan Body towelettes in golden for Target gave my legs a pretty glow without turning them the color of Tang. There are four wipes in a pack (for \$9.99), and I used one for each leg. (That adds up, Kashuk: Please put more in the box.) L'Oreal's Sublime Bronze Self-Tanning Towelettes for Body in medium dried darker. Being pale, I anticipated a "catanastrophe." Yet after a shower the color was lovely: slightly browner than the Kashuk and, at \$7.99 for six wipes at Drugstore.com and Amazon, cheaper, too.

Facial wipes, intended to remove makeup, have also become common, offered by brands like Philosophy, MAC, the Body Shop and Ole Henriksen.

Be cautious if you have sensitive skin, though. Even wipes claiming to be gentle stung my eyes. And my nose.

Towelettes meant to smell of fruit often smell like candy or dessert liqueur. One night I emerged from the bathroom smelling like SweetTarts. Another night I climbed into bed smelling like a Creamsicle. A third evening, I was indistinguishable from limoncello.

Comodynes Make-Up Remover for all skin types was an exception. Made in Barcelona, it smells fresh and didn't irritate my skin. Inspired, I also tried Comodynes Easy Peeling New Face Effect wipes, to exfoliate. Never mind whether that accomplished anything. Tiny rough bumps all over the wipe felt invigorating, like a massage. The company also makes wipes to apply self-tanner. Other wipes that didn't chafe my skin include Neutrogena's Night Calming Makeup Remover Cleansing Towelettes and Biore's Make-up Removing Towelettes (which ought to be larger). Body wipes also tend to smell strange and can be reminiscent of the ones used on babies. □



A wipe is applied to a woman's shoulder in an undated photo. New upscale wipes that are engineered to do the work of nearly any bottled beauty product are becoming more ubiquitous as brands scramble to satisfy consumer demand.

(Dan Neville/The New York Times)



A product shot of Neutrogena's Night Calming Makeup Remover Cleansing Towelettes in an undated photo. New upscale wipes that are engineered to do the work of nearly any bottled beauty product are becoming more ubiquitous as brands scramble to satisfy consumer demand.

(Dan Neville/The New York Times)

minimalist's dream, or expensive Wet Naps? Your intrepid reporter tested an all-wipe beauty routine to find out.

Given the season, I had to try sunscreen. Keeping a few wipes in my tote bag might prevent burns during

teeny travel bottles that inevitably begin leaking somewhere over the Atlantic Ocean.

"This is a game changer," my brother declared from a beach chair as he rubbed an arm with a Doctor T's Supergoop! SPF 30(PLUS)

cause they felt damper. After all, another advantage that sunscreen wipes have over lotion is that they're refreshing. One member of our sunbathing party even used a Shady Wipes Daily Sun Protection wipe with SPF 30 to whisk away sweat as we departed the beach. (The brand makes "after-sun" wipes, but they emit an earthy scent you'd expect to emanate from a Catskills hillside, not your body.)

If you prefer, you can get your tan from a wipe instead of the sun. But first, some advice on use: I found that unfolding the wipe, slowly dragging it up your leg (think "paint the fence" from "The Karate Kid") and then going over it again in a circular motion ("wax on, wax off") works best.

Also: Squeeze a dollop of body lotion on your hands first to prevent tanning your

NH town endures new 'creepy' wait

JOHN CURRAN

LYNNE TUOHY

Associated Press

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) —

More than two weeks after searchers pulled the body of 11-year-old Celina Cass from the Connecticut River near her house, the lack of an arrest and answers to questions about how she died have cast a pall over her New Hampshire hometown.

Sad and edgy, residents of Stewartstown are waiting — for answers about the girl, justice for her family, peace of mind for themselves. The police's inability to charge a suspect, an autopsy that couldn't pinpoint what killed her and the lingering fear that a killer is at large are hanging over folks in the one-stop-light burg with 960 residents near the Canadian border. "Everybody's still uncomfortable, wanting some answers," said Shannon Towle, whose family owns a convenience store and gas station where people gather. "It's just creepy."

Police say the investigation is active, with the results of toxicology tests on the girl's body pending. Experts say that may go a long way toward helping identify or charge a suspect.

Cass, a shy fourth-grader, vanished July 25 or July 26 from her home after being last seen at a computer in her bedroom.

For a week, a small army of investigators, law enforcement agents and volunteers searched. Friends handed out fliers containing the girl's smiling face, clutching a basketball, or looking jaunty in a baseball cap.

The three-story apartment building where she lived with her mother, 13-year-old sister, stepfather and a 23-year-old man — an acquaintance of mother Louisa Noyes — was roped off with crime scene tape and two vehicles linked to it impounded.

On Aug. 1, Celina's body was found. Police, while saying her death was suspicious, still haven't called it homicide. □

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Perry said to tone it down

Continued from Front

"I got lectured about that yesterday," he said. Still, he added, the Federal Reserve "should open their books up." New Hampshire in recent primaries has not necessarily been kind to Southern Republicans, with former Gov. Mike Huckabee of Arkansas, the winner of the Iowa caucuses, losing here to Sen. John McCain of Arizona in 2008, and McCain beating George W. Bush, then the governor of Texas, in 2000. Perhaps with that in mind, and with the furor over his Federal Reserve remarks still making headlines, Perry was less strident here on Wednesday than he had been since joining the campaign over the weekend. At his two campaign stops in the state Wednesday, Perry did indeed seem to be watching what he said, offering up a less free-wheeling and off-the-cuff presence.

New Hampshire voters often embrace a moderate strain of Republicanism, which could give many of the locals here pause about Perry. His challenge was underscored when Jim Rubens, a Republican activist and high-tech investor from Etna, asked Perry about climate change. (Four years ago, McCain, before winning the primary, said on the campaign trail that climate change was a real, man-made problem that needed to be addressed.) □

Plot to bomb school described in journal

A. ZAYAS,
JOHN BARRY
JODIE TILLMAN,
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TAMPA - They found ingredients to build pipe bombs. They found schematics for Freedom High School. They found a manifesto, a plot to kill even more people than the 13 massacred in 1999 at Columbine High.

Police this week thwarted a "catastrophic event the likes of which Tampa has not seen," Chief Jane Castor said at a news conference midday Wednesday. An hour earlier, skinny, shaggy-haired Jared Cano had appeared in juvenile court, accused of it all.

The 17-year old, who was expelled last year from Freedom, buried his face in his lap until he was called before the judge. He had been arrested Tuesday in front of his mother and had spent the night in juvenile detention. The state had not yet decided whether to prosecute him as an adult. He hung his head as a prosecutor listed what police found in his room.

He stood alone. Circuit Judge Tracy Sheehan asked where his parents were. His mouth quivered. He said he didn't know.

Police got the anonymous tip at 11:50 a.m. Tuesday: An expelled Freedom student was planning to discharge explosives at the school in Tampa Palms. They said he had specific plans for violence next Tuesday, the first day of school, targeting two faculty members and any nearby students.

At 6:30 p.m., the suspect's

mother consented to a search of their Cypress Run at Tampa Palms apartment, where officers found materials to construct pipe bombs: a fuel source, shrapnel, plastic tubing and timing and fusing devices. They also found a journal with a minute-by-minute plan and "disturbing statements" about his intent to

as a math teacher at River-view High School in south Hillsborough. Attempts to reach her and other family members were not successful. His father has been arrested numerous times, the first two for contempt of court involving domestic violence injunctions around the time of the divorce. He has since been convicted

said he thanks that tipster for courage.

Farkas said he thinks teachers would have stopped Cano if they had seen him on campus in north Hillsborough County.

Had the plan played out, the police Regional Bomb Team reports, Cano's materials were "capable of taking multiple lives."



Apartment 2805 at 15501 Bruce B. Downs, where authorities say they discovered bomb making materials, is photographed on Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2011 in Tampa, Fla. Tampa police have arrested an expelled student after thwarting what they deemed a potentially "catastrophic" plot to set off a bomb at his former high school and cause mass casualties on the first day of classes next week, authorities said Wednesday.

(AP Photo/Tampa Tribune, Dave Kraut)

kill. Cano did not make admissions to police, but prosecutors say he verbally had acknowledged his plan to discharge a bomb and cause mass casualties.

Court records show that Cano's parents, Michelle and Alexander Cano, divorced in 1998 and the mother was granted custody of two children. His mother is listed

of DUI with property damage or personal injury. Police think Cano, who they said is now home schooled, was acting alone. Hillsborough school officials joined police in crediting the anonymous tipster, noting the importance of public vigilance in preventing a repeat of Columbine. Freedom principal Chris Farkas

In the apartment, police also found a marijuana growing operation, with lights, plants and a digital scale. Cano faces charges of possessing bombmaking materials; threatening to throw, project, place or discharge a destructive device; cultivating marijuana; and possessing marijuana and drug paraphernalia. □

Mom on trial for punishing child with hot sauce

MARY PEMBERTON

Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)

— Jurors on Wednesday saw a videotape of a woman squirting hot sauce in the mouth of her adopted son and then making him stand in a cold shower in a case that caused a public uproar in Russia after the video aired on the "Dr. Phil" show.

Jessica Beagley is charged with misdemeanor child abuse. Beagley's lawyer said she was punishing the 7-year-old boy from Russia because he misbehaved in school and then lied about it. Beagley used unusual methods because more traditional forms of punishment had not worked with the boy, attorney William Ingaldson said.

Beagley went on the "Dr. Phil" show to try and get help for herself and the boy, Ingaldson told jurors. But, prosecutors say, what Beagley did went beyond what would be considered reasonable parental discipline and amounted to child abuse.

She submitted the nine-minute video, made on Oct. 21, 2010, for an episode titled "Mommy Confessions." It shows the 36-year-old mother talking forcefully to the boy in a hallway in the family's home.

"Why did you lie to me?"

Does it work to lie to me?" she asks the child.

Beagley asks the boy what happens when he lies. "I get hot sauce," the crying boy replies.

The video shows Beagley

school: wriggling in his seat and sword-fighting with pencils.

The video did not show the child in the shower, but the boy's screams can be heard.



Jessica Beagley appears in court on the first day of her trial in Anchorage, Alaska, on Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2011. Beagley is charged with misdemeanor child abuse for her methods of disciplining her 7-year-old adopted son from Russia.

(AP Photo/The Anchorage Daily News, Marc Lester)

leading the boy into a bathroom, where he sits on the counter next to the sink and she squirts hot sauce in his mouth. "Don't spit it," she says.

"Are lies supposed to be out of your mouth?" she yells, her arms braced on either side of him. When he admits to lying, she allows him to spit out the hot sauce.

She then explains to the child that he is going to get in a cold shower for lying about misbehavior at

"Listen to your teacher," she says. "You are to do what you are told."

Viewers contacted police after the "Dr. Phil" episode aired last November.

Beagley and her husband, an Anchorage police officer, are trying to give two orphans a chance at a better life, Ingaldson told jurors. The Beagleys, who have four biological children, adopted the twin boys after they had been in the orphanage for three years. □

More jobs, but less pay: a new standard?

ROBERT TRIGAUX

Let's call this the Case of the Low Hanging Fruit.

Florida may have added tens of thousands of jobs since the start of 2011, but so far they tend to be lower-paying opportunities, many of them in the tourism industry. Nothing wrong with that. We like tourism jobs. Visit Florida, the state tourism bureau, says 21.2 million people visited the state in the second quarter of this year. That's a 6.9 percent gain over the same period last year and a bright light in Florida's bruised business world. The tourism increase outpaced the rest of the United States by more than 1 percentage point.

But if motel-hotel help or servers are mostly what's in the state's employment pipeline, then we have a problem.

From January through May of this year, the average working Floridian's seen about a 3 percent drop in weekly earnings, according to labor data. On average, a working Floridian earned \$770.77 per week in January but by June received less: \$749.30. The same is true for those working in the Tampa Bay market. They earned on average \$796.22 in January and are now paid \$783.31.

That's \$1,100 less a year for the average working Floridian, more than a week's earnings lost. On the statewide average, it is the difference between earning \$40,080 and \$38,964 per year.

So here's the big question:

Are the bumper crop of lower-paying jobs simply the first to be revived as we climb out of Florida's recession? Or is the state heading for a longer-term decline in earnings that will drop the Sunshine State even further below the national pay average?

There may be cause for concern. In February, St. Petersburg Times business writer Jeff Harrington analyzed jobs and income data over the past year and found that the state had not only stalled in its mission to become a higher-wage state. It had gone backward.

Harrington found that the average pay for a lost job among the top five hardest-hit industries was \$49,884. Meanwhile, the average pay for industries creating the most jobs was starkly lower at \$34,239.

Some of this year's biggest layoffs hit Florida's Space Coast where the space industry suffered job losses involving well-paid engineers and technicians.

Tracking job gains and losses is not easy. Here in Tampa Bay, PricewaterhouseCoopers laid off several hundred workers, mostly information technology positions, and sent some jobs overseas while outsourcing others that remained in this country. Yet, as of early this month, the firm said it had 98 unfilled positions in Tampa.

Is Florida simply suffering from a broader trend of the recession? Among much of its chief economic competition, a spot check suggests not. In Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina, for example, average worker earnings between January and May increased nearly 2 percent, 1 percent and 4 percent, respectively. In Texas, earnings were flat. (Kudos to the Broward-Palm Beach New Times for its coverage on this topic.) □

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Hero turned mobster is sentenced

MICHAEL TARM

Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Sam Volpendesto began his adult life celebrated as a war hero. Now 87, the Chicago mobster is nearly certain to die behind bars.

At his sentencing Wednesday, the silver-haired, slightly built Volpendesto pushed himself up from his wheelchair to denounce witnesses who fingered him at his recent trial for bombing a video poker company, calling them lying “scum bags” and “crumb balls.”

An unsympathetic federal judge promptly sentenced him to 35 years in prison.

“He’s never once, not once, ever owned up to any of the things he’s done,” said Judge Ronald Guzman, glaring down from his bench. Guzman concluded by telling Volpendesto he would likely die serving his term.

The sentence was preceded by competing portraits of the Chicago-born Volpendesto.

Prosecutor Amarjeet Bhachu described him as a grizzled soldier of Chicago’s Outfit mob who could be heard laughing on wire-taps about once watching another mobster stuff body parts through a meat grinder.

As a strip club owner in 1990, Volpendesto sought to silence a worker he believed was talking to the FBI, Bhachu said. He allegedly handed a bat to his underlings, who beat the employee nearly unconscious, the prosecutor said.

For his part, defense attorney Beau Brindley sought to turn back the clock to World War II, telling the judge how Volpendesto had helped save fellow Navy men trapped in a crippled destroyer. Brindley placed a box of medals on a lectern as he spoke, including a Bronze Star he said Volpendesto received. □

Joplin defies odds, just by opening their schools

A.G. SULZBERGER

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JOPLIN, Mo. — When the schools here were reduced to red-brick rubble in the deadly tornado three months ago, abruptly ending classes just before final exams, district leaders made a promise that seemed like a long shot: The new school year would start on time.

And Wednesday, right on schedule, students were reunited for the first day of school, streaming into makeshift buildings that replaced the nine schools damaged or destroyed by the tornado and marking the end of a difficult summer.

Exchanging the usual first-day greetings — the boys slapping hands, the girls embracing — juniors and seniors shared their schedules and marveled at the modern touches of the

“We’re trying to get the school year started without thinking about all the bad stuff,” she said.

The school year arrives as the city continues to regain its footing after the tornado killed 160 people, the most in the United States in more than a half-century, and destroyed thousands of homes as it tore across a third of Joplin on May 22.

The cratered landscape has been tidied somewhat since then, and there are signs of rebirth like the wood frames of replacement homes, the “opening soon” declarations on rebuilt businesses and the green shoots on the storm-stripped trees, raising the hope that at least a few of them may survive.

The most anticipated indication of progress, one that led residents of a nearby retire-



School Board member Anne Sharp takes a photo of some Joplin High School students before school at a makeshift high school, in Joplin, Mo., Aug. 17, 2011. Students started school in makeshift facilities that replaced the 10 schools damaged or destroyed by the tornado in May.

(Steve Hebert/The New York Times)

new Joplin High School, built in just 55 days out of what was a vacant department store at the back of a shopping mall.

Even for students like Ariana Dudley, a senior who watched her home collapse around her and is now living in a trailer, there was less talk of tragedy than of the flat-screen televisions on the school walls and the new laptops each student received, reminders of the money and other donations that poured into Joplin after the tornado.

ment home to line the street cheering for the arriving teenagers, has been the opening of the schools. It is a moment the city is celebrating not only because it delivered on a promise that seemed out of reach to many but because it indicated a return to a measure of normalcy.

“It’s a happy day,” Monica Mihajlovic, who is working to rebuild her family home, said before picking up her daughter Mia from her first day of second grade at a temporary school. “It’s the day we’re go-



Students are given instructions to manage the school's coffee shop in a section of Northpark Mall, made into a makeshift facility for high school students, in Joplin, Mo., Aug. 17, 2011. After a tornado devastated the city in May, new classrooms were built in just 55 days inside a recently vacant department store at the back of a shopping mall.

(Steve Hebert/The New York Times)

ing to stop surviving and start living again.”

In the coming months, everything from shifting school enrollment numbers to the students’ mental health will be analyzed for insight into the true toll of the storm and for what the future holds for this community. The first day brought 6,978 students, about 750 fewer than the enrollment at the end of last year. Officials said the turnout exceeded expectations and might rise.

“This is one more step, and it’s a fairly big step,” said Mayor Mike Woolston, who said the schools are essential to retaining and eventually growing the city’s population, which was about 50,000 in the 2010 census but has dropped since the storm.

“It shows we’re getting to be OK, getting back to normal,” Woolston added. “We’ve got a long way to go.”

The tornado struck on a Sunday, shortly after Joplin High School’s class of 2011 finished its graduation ceremony at a local university.

The school buildings were empty, but among those killed were seven students and one staff member, whose son began his senior year this week. An estimated 3,000 students lived in the storm’s path, and many of them were injured or

lost their homes.

Six of the 18 schools were so badly damaged that they will be razed.

Three others, and the administration building, require serious repairs. But less than two days after the tornado, C.J. Huff, the superintendent, announced that the schools would reopen on schedule Aug. 17.

Huff held to the deadline even as it became clear the damage was worse than estimated, and despite doubts from other officials and contractors that it was even possible.

“It became a rallying point for the community,” said Ashley Mickelthwaite, president of the local Board of Education. With the help of state and federal financing, the district spent more than \$30 million to reopen the buildings that survived, rent new space and bring in special modular classrooms.

The high school’s freshmen and sophomores were moved to one building, and the juniors and seniors are taking classes at the former department store. Architects were encouraged to “Eagle it up,” adorning the new spaces with images of the school mascot. School bus routes were extended to nearby areas where many families moved after the storm. □

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Parents' marijuana arrests lead to child neglect cases

MOSI SECRET

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The police found about 10 grams of marijuana, or about a third of an ounce, when they searched Penelope Harris' apartment in the Bronx last year.

The amount was below the legal threshold for even a misdemeanor, and prosecutors declined to charge her. But Harris, a mother whose son and niece were home when she was briefly in custody, could hardly rest easy.

The police had reported her arrest to the state's child welfare hotline, and city caseworkers quickly arrived and took the children away.

Her son, then 10, spent more than a week in foster care.

Her niece, who was 8 and living with her as a foster child, was placed in another home and not returned by the foster care agency for more than a year. Harris, 31, had to weather a lengthy child neglect inquiry, though she had no criminal record and had never before been investigated by the child welfare authorities, Harris and her lawyer said.

"I felt like less of a parent, like I had failed my children," Harris said.

"It tore me up."

Hundreds of New Yorkers who have been caught with small amounts of marijuana, or who have simply admitted to using it, have become ensnared in civil child neglect cases in recent years, though they did not face even the least of criminal charges, according to city records and defense lawyers. A small

number of parents in these cases have even lost custody of their children.

New York City's child welfare agency said that it was pursuing these cases for appropriate reasons, and that marijuana use by

neglect cases, and defense lawyers there say the authorities are now bringing fewer of them.

But in New York, the child welfare agency has not shied from these cases. For these parents, the child

had never faced neglect allegations and whose children were placed in foster care because of marijuana allegations.

Lauren Shapiro, director of the Brooklyn Family Defense Project, which de-

cording to city health data. Overall, the rate of marijuana use among whites is twice as high as among blacks and Hispanics in the city, the data show, but defense lawyers said these cases were rarely if ever filed against white parents. Michael Fagan, a spokesman for the Administration for Children's Services, said the defense lawyers were offering a simplistic portrayal of these cases.

"Drug use itself is not child abuse or neglect, but it can put children in danger of neglect or abuse," Fagan said.

"We think the argument that use of cocaine, heroin or marijuana by a parent of young children should not be looked into or should simply be ignored is just plain wrong."

Fagan said most of the cases involved additional forms of neglect, like a child who is not going to school or who has been left unattended.

"In other times, we find that admitted marijuana use masks other substance abuse," Fagan said.

But lawyers for parents countered that the agency often brought neglect charges based solely on recreational marijuana use, then searched later for other grounds to bolster cases.

"In some cases, there are other allegations, but we think they are add-ons," said Susan Jacobs, executive director of the Center for Family Representation, which works in Manhattan and Queens. "The reason the person is being brought into Family Court is the marijuana use." □



Jose Gunnell, who lost custody of his 1-year-old daughter in March after an employee at a homeless shelter where he was staying found a \$5 bag of marijuana in his room during an inspection, in New York. Parents caught with marijuana, even amounts too small to be charged with a crime, are finding themselves scrutinized by child welfare officials.

(Michael Kamber/The New York Times)

parents could often hint at other serious problems in the way they care for their children.

As states and localities around the country loosen penalties for marijuana, for both recreational and medical uses, they are increasingly grappling with how to handle its presence in homes with children. California, where the medical marijuana movement has flourished, now requires that child welfare officials demonstrate actual harm to a child from marijuana use in order to bring ne-

welfare system has become an alternate system of justice, with legal standards on marijuana that appear to be tougher than those of criminal courts or, to some extent, of society at large. In interviews, lawyers from the three legal services groups that the city hires to defend parents said they saw hundreds of marijuana cases each year, most involving recreational users.

The lawyers said they currently had more than a dozen cases on their dockets involving parents who

fends most parents facing neglect charges in Family Court in Brooklyn, said more than 90 percent of the cases alleging drug use that her lawyers handle involve marijuana, as opposed to other drugs.

"There is not the same use of crack cocaine as there used to be, so they are filing these cases instead," Shapiro said.

Marijuana is the most common illicit drug in New York City: 730,000 people, or 12 percent of people age 12 and older, use the drug at least once annually, ac-

Charter, cargo airlines target pilot safety rule

JOAN LOWY

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration, facing fierce opposition from charter and cargo airlines and a leery Pentagon, has delayed new safety rules aimed at preventing airline pilots from becoming so exhausted that they could make dangerous mistakes.

The Federal Aviation Administration was supposed to have final rules in place by Aug. 1 under a law passed by Congress last year in response to a 2009 regional airline crash in western New York that killed 50 people. The FAA proposed new rules last year designed to deal with long-standing worries that pilot fatigue contributes to errors that cause accidents.

They would reshape decades-old regulations governing how many hours a pilot can be on duty or at the controls of a plane, to take into account the latest scientific understanding of how fatigue slows human reflexes and erodes judgment. Administration officials would not comment on reasons for the delay. A new schedule for issuing final rules indicates the target date, which has been repeatedly pushed back, now is in late November. Opposition is greatest among cargo and charter carriers. UPS, the world's 9th largest airline with more

than 200 planes and over 2,600 pilots, estimates its compliance costs at as much as \$1.8 billion over the next decade.

Charter airlines are demanding to be exempted from the new rules. Charter, also called nonscheduled, airlines not only fly tourists and sports teams, they provide the planes and pilots for thousands of military flights every year. Civilian airlines transport more than 90 percent of U.S. troops and 40 percent of military cargo around the globe under Defense Department contracts.

The trips are frequently long, usually at night and often to dangerous places like Afghanistan.

The top U.S. aviation accident investigator blamed the delay in issuing final rules on the influence of airlines that put profit ahead of safety. "There are special interests who are holding this rule up because it's not in their financial self-interest," National Transportation Safety Board Chairman Deborah Hersman told The Associated Press this week. "The American people expect safety to trump special interests, not the other way around." Airline industry officials are nearly unanimous in their opposition. The Air Transport Association, which represents large carriers, estimates the proposal will cost airlines nearly \$20 billion over 10 years. □

Far from the capital, Obama finds woes have followed him

MARK LANDLER

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ATKINSON, Ill. — When President Barack Obama called on Alex McAvoy, a sandy-haired boy who had just turned 11, he may have figured he would get a break from the drumbeat of questions about lost jobs, collapsed housing prices and threats to Social Security that flowed through his town-hall-style meeting Wednesday at a seed-corn warehouse here.

It was not to be.

The boy said his grandfather owned an ethanol plant, and he wanted to know what the president planned to do to help keep it running. Obama defended his commitment to bio-fuels while arguing that the industry needed to move away from food crops like corn toward grass and wood chips.

It has been like that across the Midwest this week, where the president wrapped up his three-day bus tour in two Illinois farm hamlets: The welcome mat was out, but the mood was somber. Even here, in the state where he began his political career and makes his home, Obama got tough questions from people who said they were fearful about their future, frustrated by the paralyzed job market and fed up with a political culture in Washington that produced the



White House Press Secretary Jay Carney and White House Senior Adviser David Plouffe talk outside President Barack Obama's bus at a campaign stop at the Whiteside County Fair on the last day of his Midwest bus tour, in Morrison, Ill., Aug. 17, 2011. Obama held his second town hall of the day in Alpha, Ill., at the Country Corner Farm before returning to Washington.

(Doug Mills/The New York Times)

debt-ceiling imbroglio.

A real estate agent told Obama that her phone had stopped ringing after the debt debate, setting back what had been a nascent recovery in housing prices. A corn and soybean farmer complained about new government regulations on noise and water pollution. A young man

asked whether his grandmother's Social Security check would be adjusted to account for rising prices. As he has at every stop, Obama did his best to sympathize.

"There have been folks who wonder, 'Are our best days still ahead of us, or are they behind us?'" he said, kicking off the session. □



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London police charge 1,000th person in riots

LONDON (AP) — London police force say more than 1,000 people have now been charged in the unrest that rocked the capital for four days, as human rights groups reiterated concerns that the sentences being handed out nationwide are disproportionate.

Acting chief Tim Godwin issued a statement Wednesday that said while hitting the 1,000-charged milestone is significant, the investigation is ongoing. He urged the public to turn in anyone involved in the disorder.

"Don't let them get away with it," he said.

U.K. police have arrested more than 3,000 people over riots that erupted Aug. 6 in north London and flared for four nights across the capital and other English cities.

The huge numbers and public anger has sparked concerns that judges were handing out sentences that were disproportionate. Some of the concerns centered around two men in north-



British police officers stand guard outside the Houses of Parliament in London, Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2011. Four nights of arson, looting and violence erupted across England's largest cities and left five people dead. British police didn't fire a single shot. Since the early 19th Century, when legislator Robert Peel launched the world's first modern police department in London, law enforcers in the U.K. have kept the peace by winning the respect of the public, not by instilling fear.

(AP Photo/Matt Dunham)

western England, who were handed stiff jail terms for inciting disorder through social networking sites.

Cheshire Police said Jordan Blackshaw, 20, and Perry Sutcliffe-Keenan, 22, both received 4-year sentences for using Face-

book to "organize and orchestrate" disorder.

Blackshaw used the social networking site to create an event — with a date, time and location — for "massive Northwich looting."

Sutcliffe created a page on Facebook called "Warrington Riots" which listed a time and date for anyone who wished to be involved in a riot. The riots discussed never occurred.

The Crown Prosecution Service defended the sentences, saying the web pages caused panic and revulsion to the people of Cheshire.

A lawyer representing the 20-year-old said his client is remorseful and that his family is "shocked and upset" by the length of the sentence.

"Jordan originally set up the Facebook site for a joke, which he accepts was in bad taste and inappropriate," Chris Johnson said.

Prime Minister David Cameron said sending "a very clear message" that rioting is wrong is exactly what the justice system should be doing.

"They decided in that court to send a tough sentence, send a tough message and I think it's very good that courts are able to do that," he said. □

Caribbean Briefs

\$78M project to rebuild damage

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — The Haiti reconstruction panel co-chaired by former U.S. President Bill Clinton announced a major new project Wednesday to rebuild part of the capital damaged by last year's earthquake. The Interim Haiti Recovery Commission said it plans to spend \$78 million to revitalize 16 neighborhoods and remove roughly 30,000 people from six major settlement camps that formed after the January 2010 disaster. The commission said the project aims to move the 5,239 families living in six particularly vulnerable camps back into the 16 Port-au-Prince neighborhoods where most of them lived before the quake. "This kind of collaboration will generate the lasting change, the permanent housing solutions that Haitians are depending on," Clinton said in a speech after the commission's announcement. He said the project would generate about 4,500 jobs. The International Organization for Migration estimates about 630,000 Haitians are still without homes. Haitian President Michel Martelly and his staff identified encampments that they found are most in need of help before presenting the project to the recovery commission board, which approved it this week. □

US tourist likely bitten by shark

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — A U.S. tourist who was swimming at night in a bioluminescent bay is recovering from a suspected shark bite that occurred in a tiny island near Puerto Rico, a doctor said Wednesday. The woman underwent surgery for severed tendons near her ankle and is expected to recover, said Dr. Edwin Miranda, a spokesman for the Rio Piedras Medical Center, where the victim was treated. He said doctors believe the bite may have been caused by a shark, but they are awaiting analysis from a marine biologist Thursday. Authorities didn't release the woman's name. The newspaper El Nuevo Dia described her as a 27-year-old woman from Idaho who was traveling alone, according to an acquaintance of hers in Puerto Rico. Marine experts said they suspected a shark was to blame based on descriptions of the extent of the injuries, although they had not seen pictures of the bite. □

Prime minister contracts dengue

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad (AP) — Doctors in Trinidad say the Caribbean island's prime minister is among the nearly 1,700 people who have been diagnosed with dengue. Trinidad's health minister says Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar has a mild form of the mosquito-borne virus and is expected to recover. Dr. Fuad Khan says the leader likely contracted the disease during a recent walking tour in the capital of Port-of-Spain. The prime minister's office released a statement late Tuesday saying Persad-Bissessar is working from home. Khan says Trinidad is fighting a dengue outbreak and warns people to take precautions. An 8-year-old Trinidadian girl died earlier this month from the more severe hemorrhagic dengue after being released from a hospital. □

Repsol YPF delays drilling

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AP) — Spanish-Argentine oil company Repsol YPF has delayed plans to drill its first offshore well in the South American country of Guyana. The oil director for Guyana's geology and mines commission says equipment stuck in neighboring Suriname is to blame. Newell Dennison said Wednesday it's unclear when drilling will begin. Dennison said the company already has shipped tons of equipment to Guyana. Repsol is targeting an area that experts say could contain up to 15 billion barrels of oil and 42 trillion cubic feet (1.2 trillion cubic meters) of gas reserves. □

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UN chief likely to act on Syria

EDITH M. LEDERER
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

The U.N. human rights chief is likely to call for the Security Council to refer Syria to the International Criminal Court for investigation of alleged atrocities against protesters during the five-month uprising, a U.N. diplomat and a U.S. official in Washington said Wednesday. High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay is scheduled to brief the Security Council at a closed-door session Thursday afternoon.

The U.N. diplomat and U.S. official said Pillay is expected to report that a fact-finding team established by the Human Rights Council in April to investigate allegations of abuse has found evidence that Syria violated international human rights law — and should be referred to the International Criminal Court. They spoke on condition of anonymity because Pillay's intentions and briefing have not been made public.

The Syrian government insists its crackdown is aimed at rooting out terrorists fomenting unrest in the country. Human rights groups and witnesses accuse Syrian troops of firing on largely unarmed protesters and say more than 1,800 civilians have been killed since mid-March.

A call by Pillay for the Security Council to refer Syria to the court, the world's permanent war crimes tribunal, would put the spotlight on a number of council members who have been reluctant to pressure President Bashar Assad's government.

After months of diplomatic inaction, Syria's ongoing military assault, using tanks and artillery, spurred the council to issue a presidential statement on Aug. 3 condemning "the widespread violations of human rights and the use of force against civilians by the Syrian authorities." □

Militant threat in Nigeria growing with al-Qaida's help

ADAM NOSSITER

© 2011 New York Times

MAIDUGURI, Nigeria — A shadowy Islamist insurgency that has haunted northern Nigeria — surviving repeated, bloody efforts to eliminate it — appears to be branching out and collaborating with al-Qaida's affiliates, alarming Western officials and analysts who had previously viewed the militants here as a largely isolated, if deadly, menace.

Just two years ago, the Islamist group stalking police officers in this bustling city seemed on the verge of extinction.

In a heavy-handed assault, Nigerian soldiers shelled its headquarters and killed its leader, leaving a tableau of charred ruins, hundreds dead and outmatched members of the group, known as Boko Haram, struggling to fight back, sometimes with little more than bows and arrows.

planting roots in a major, Western-allied state that had not been seen as a hotbed of global terrorism. In the past two years, Boko Haram has met and trained with al-Qaida affiliates outside the country, officials and analysts in the United

work."

The government of Nigeria appears to have only a shaky grasp of how to confront the threat, responding with such a broad, harsh crackdown that many residents see the military as more of a danger than

impoverished north.

Boko Haram's militants fade into the warrens of sandy alleys, protected, officials say, by supporters in the population and even in the security services. The brutal Nigerian military tactics — shoot first, ask questions later — are creating more sympathizers on the ground, analysts and residents here suggest.

"You are Boko Haram!" said Saude Maman, recounting how soldiers yelled at her husband July 9 after a patrol vehicle was bombed and the military cordoned off Kaleri, a district of low cement houses and courtyards.

When her husband denied it, "they dragged him to the courtyard and shot him," said Maman, sitting with a group of women in front of a scorched house. Four of them said they had lost their husbands that night.

Maman, dressed in black from head to foot, told of holding her spouse as he died and then having to pay about \$20 to recover his body.

At least 25 people died in that operation alone, Amnesty says. A week later, the neighborhood still showed the scars of the military's nocturnal onslaught: burned-out vehicles, charred walls, melted cookware.

Boko Haram's growing sophistication is not being matched by the government's, analysts contend. Last month, at another insurgent attack near the military headquarters here, a blasted-out jeep lay on its side, a pool of blood forming under it.

No soldiers were guarding the fresh crime scene, and no evidence was being gathered from it, an hour after the blast, even though several security-force personnel were injured, one severely.

Boko Haram, however, is rapidly evolving. It has a virulent website taunting the security services, promising "more attacks on the way!!!" all "in the name of Allah," and inviting emails to "nigjihadist" — additional signs of outside influence, analysts say. □



Nigerian soldiers survey passing civilians in the government reserved area of Maiduguri, in north-eastern Nigeria, July 19, 2011. An Islamist insurgency that has haunted northern Nigeria appears to be branching out and collaborating with al-Qaida's affiliates, alarming Western officials and analysts who had previously viewed the militants here as a largely isolated, if deadly, menace.

(Samuel James/The New York



A Nigerian soldier recovers from shrapnel wounds following a bombing attack by members of the radical Islamist sect known as Boko Haram, at the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital in Maiduguri, north-eastern Nigeria, July 19, 2011. An Islamist insurgency that has haunted northern Nigeria appears to be branching out and collaborating with al-Qaida's affiliates, alarming Western officials and analysts who had previously viewed the militants here as a largely isolated, if deadly, menace.

(Samuel James/The New York Times)

Now, insurgents strike at the Nigerian military, the police and opponents of Islamic law in near-daily assaults and bombings, using improvised explosive devices that can be detonated remotely and bear the hallmarks of al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb, Western officials and analysts say. Beyond the immediate devastation, the fear is that extremists bent on jihad are spreading their reach across the continent and

States and Nigeria say, and the group has begun waging a propaganda campaign that includes conference calls with reporters — another sign of its growing sophistication.

"Where are they getting this knowledge of IEDs?" said Kashim Shettima, the new governor here. "Some of them went as far as Sudan.

Why? I believe they are making efforts to reach out to the global terrorism net-

Boko Haram. Shops are shuttered, vans laden with refugees can be seen heading out of town and the normally wide, traffic-choked streets lined with neem trees are unexpectedly clear.

About 140 people have died in the violence since January, according to Amnesty International, including dozens of civilians killed by the military. Most of Boko Haram's attacks have occurred here in this city at the edge of the Sahara, but there have also been blasts farther south in Kaduna and outside the national police headquarters in the capital, Abuja.

Several dozen civilians were killed in June when bombs were hurled into the rudimentary outdoor beer parlors that exist furtively on the Christian-minority fringes here. Shariah law exists in this overwhelmingly Muslim region, but in a relatively loose form. Not all women are veiled, and beer and wine can be obtained — apparently an affront, authorities here say, to the group's goal of imposing strict Islamic law in this country's restive and

Slain German socialite's husband held without bail

ERIC TUCKER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The husband of a slain German-born socialite had scratches on his forehead after the 91-year-old woman was killed,

and he presented her relatives with a forged letter stating that he was entitled to a \$150,000 payment upon her death, police said Wednesday.

Albrecht Muth, 47, was ordered held without bail on a charge of second-degree murder in the death of Viola Drath.

Charging documents say Drath, a journalist who wrote frequently on German-American relations, died of strangulation and blunt-force trauma.

The couple wed in 1990 in what Muth has described as a "marriage of convenience" and entertained diplomats at their off-yellow row house in the well-heeled Georgetown neighborhood. But their relationship was plagued by infidelity and allegations of violence.

Muth also made outlandish claims about working for the Iraqi army, though police said he had no formal job and was supported by his wife with a monthly \$2,000 allowance.

In an interview Monday with The Associated Press, Muth said he found his



This May 12, 2004 photo shows German socialite Viola Drath during the annual Woodrow Wilson home garden party and hat contest in Washington. Drath's husband is due in court to face charges that he killed the much-older woman in their million-dollar Washington home. Forty-seven-year-old Albrecht Muth was scheduled to appear before a judge Wednesday, a day after he was arrested and charged with second-degree murder. Viola Drath was found dead Friday morning, but the medical examiner has not said how the 91-year-old died. (AP Photo/The Washington Times)

wife dead Friday morning in the bathroom, called police and didn't try to revive her because he figured it was hopeless. After finding no signs of forced entry and concluding that no one else had access to the home other than Muth,

detectives singled him out as the suspect. They also say they found so-called "touch DNA" — which requires only small samples of genetic material — linking him to the scene.

Muth had initially denied touching his wife's body, but after being told of the DNA evidence, later told detectives that he said he'd kissed her and touched her hand when told of the DNA evidence, according to the criminal complaint.

Muth has denied wrongdoing and wrote an obituary for his wife stating that she died of a head injury from a fall. But police said the injuries were inconsistent with a fall, and the medical examiner ruled the death a homicide over the weekend.

A magistrate judge ordered him held pending a Sept. 2 hearing.

"The defendant concedes that he's the only one who had access to, and opportunity to, kill his wife," he said.

The court papers depict Muth as alternately candid and flip with the detectives. When asked how an intruder could have entered the home, he replied, "It's your job to investigate, not mine." At another point, he stated, "It doesn't look good for me though," the complaint says. □

Probe:

Deepwater Horizon found to be sound

HARRY R. WEBER

Associated Press

The owner of the rig that exploded in the Gulf of Mexico last year said Wednesday that an investigative report issued by the vessel's flag state further confirms that the Deepwater Horizon was fit for service at the time of the disaster. Transocean said the company continues to blame a catastrophic failure of BP's well for the April 2010 explosion that killed 11 men and led to the worst offshore oil spill in U.S. history. BP said, as it has in the past, that it believes the disaster was the result of multiple causes involving multiple parties. It added that it is committed to helping the industry prevent similar accidents from happening again.

The Republic of the Marshall Islands, a Micronesian nation of islands in the Pacific Ocean, recommended in its report that there be improved procedures for activating emergency systems and maintaining fail-safe devices meant to prevent blowouts like the one that led to the massive BP oil spill. The report also recommended rig operators ensure that new crew members, contractors and visitors be told when they board about the roles and

responsibilities of people in charge of the vessel, and how the chain of command works in emergencies. But it did little to place blame for the disaster on the principal companies involved, Deepwater Horizon rig owner Transocean Ltd. and British oil giant BP, which leased the rig to drill at its Macondo well site off the southeast Louisiana coast. In somewhat of a pass for Transocean, the report concluded that confusion regarding decision-making authority during the incident was not a cause of the disaster. A U.S. government investigation by the Coast Guard and the agency that regulates offshore drilling has spent a lot of time focusing on that question. Their final report has not yet been released. The Marshall Islands report was released Wednesday. An executive summary was obtained by The Associated Press on Tuesday. The Marshall Islands report said the disaster was caused by a loss of well control. It blamed a deviation from engineering standards and well abandonment plans approved by U.S. regulators, along with a failure to react to multiple indications that the well had lost control. □

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Fast in India stirs debate

MUNEEZA NAQVI
Associated Press

NEW DELHI (AP) — An activist's threat to fast to death unless the government amends an anti-corruption bill has sparked debate about whether the traditional Indian form of protest has any place in a modern democracy.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Wednesday called Anna Hazare's hunger strike "misconceived," but frustrated demonstrators insisted the fast that began Tuesday was the only way to get the attention of an unresponsive government neck-deep in corruption scandals.

Hazare's repeated hunger strikes are part of a hallowed protest tradition made famous by independence leader Mohandas K. Gandhi, who coined the term "Satyagraha," or nonviolent resistance, and fasted repeatedly against British rule. Since then the "fast unto death" — which almost never ends in the protester's death — has become an established route to getting any point of view heard in the rough and tumble of Indian politics. In India's remote northeast, human rights activist Irom Sharmila has been force-fed for more than a decade during a hunger strike protesting an anti-terror law that grants Indian soldiers sweeping powers there. Protesters in southern India have fasted to demand the creation of a new state.

But in the past few decades, no one has captured the popular imagination and the round-the-clock attention of India's breathless, 24-hour news channels in quite the same way as the 73-year-old Hazare. He has dubbed his protest "the second freedom struggle" and fashioned himself the heir to Gandhi and independence leaders, with his trademark white cotton attire and cap.

Yet Gandhi's protests challenged repressive colonial rule, while Hazare's pits him against a democratically elected Parliament. □

Analyzing 240 years of justice at the Old Bailey

PATRICIA COHEN

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For 240 years, the grand parade of human greed, love, cruelty, longing and foolishness was captured in the Proceedings, the published record of trials that took place at the Old Bailey, the central criminal court, in London.

Now, powerful digital tools developed by an international team of researchers to search these trial reports and summaries have begun to offer new insights into the evolution of the justice system, the institution of marriage and changing morals.

The Old Bailey offers a unique window into the criminal justice system and, by extension, British culture. The free searchable online archive, oldbaileyonline.org, contains accounts of nearly 198,000 trials between 1674 and 1913.

"It's the largest body of accurately transcribed historical texts online," said Tim Hitchcock, a historian at the University of Hertfordshire in England and part of the team. "All of human life is here."

Hitchcock argues that new methods of digitally analyzing and mapping the history of crime using the entire Proceedings will revise "the history of the criminal trial."

After scouring the 127 million words in the database for patterns in a project called Data Mining With Criminal Intent, he and William J. Turkel, a historian at the University of Western Ontario, came up with a novel discovery. Beginning in 1825, they noticed, there was an unusual jump in the number of guilty pleas and the number of very short trials. Before then, most of the accused proclaimed their innocence and received full trials. By 1850, however, one-third of all cases involved guilty pleas. Trials, with their uncertain outcomes, were gradually crowded out by a system in which defendants pleaded guilty outside of the courtroom, they said.

Conventional histories cite the mid-1700s as the turning point in the development of the modern adversarial

system of justice in England and Colonial America, with defense lawyers and prosecutors facing off in court, Hitchcock and Turkel said. Their analysis tells a different story, however.

"Mapping all trials suggests

when all they are going to do is hang you."

Scholars have long considered the Old Bailey an invaluable resource. Not only did the court's practices deeply influence the authors of the U.S. Constitution



A sculpture of Justice at the Old Bailey, the central criminal court, in London, July 6, 1953. For 240 years, published record of trials that took place at the Old Bailey were captured in the Proceedings, and now, powerful digital tools developed by an international team of researchers to search these trial reports have begun to offer new insights into the evolution of the justice system.

(Sam Falk/The New York Times)

that the real moment of evolution was in the first half of the 19th century," with the advent of plea bargains that resulted in many more convictions, Hitchcock said. "The defendant's experience of the criminal justice system changed radically. You were much more likely to be found guilty."

Last month, the scholars submitted an article to the British journal *Past and Present* on their findings.

Profound shifts were behind the turn toward negotiated agreements. The class of professional lawyers, police officers and judges was growing quickly at the same time that prison began to be used as an alternative to exile or capital punishment, historians have noted. (The first modern prison in Britain can be dated to 1792.)

As Hitchcock said, "It's hard to have plea bargaining

and the young nation's developing legal code, but its files are the only large-scale printed source of how ordinary Englishmen actually spoke in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. Centuries of Londoners avidly read the Proceedings for entertainment, moral instruction and news, learning in 1763 that William David was executed for robbing a man of his watch and hat, or in 1910 that Stanley Dennis was guilty of murdering his wife, Violet, but was found insane. The spread of newspapers and a hike in publishing costs abruptly ended the Proceedings in 1913.

John H. Langbein, a professor of law and legal history at Yale University and an author of "History of the Common Law: The Development of Anglo-American Legal Institutions," called the Proceedings "a won-

derful narrative resource." Langbein was the first scholar to use the archive when it was digitized more than a decade ago, thanks partly to Hitchcock's efforts.

Sophisticated tabulation methods have expanded what researchers can do. Previously a keyword search of the Old Bailey documents, for example, could produce thousands of records that someone would have to read through laboriously and interpret. The latest tools, developed by scholars from Britain, Canada and the United States, can search, organize and analyze large quantities of information in myriad ways. Months of work can be reduced to a few days or hours. When asked to comment on a brief summary of the new quantitative results that were presented at a National Endowment for the Humanities conference in June, Langbein was deeply skeptical of promised revelations.

The Proceedings changed character over time, he said, evolving from "true-crime-type pop literature" to quasi-official reports that were "drastically edited and compressed" and focused on crimes involving "sex, blood and gore." Drawing conclusions from something like trial lengths is, therefore, very misleading, he said.

"The Old Bailey Online project has done a great service in making those sources widely (and costlessly) available," Langbein wrote in an email. But he complained that the claims about data mining have "a breathless quality: 'You can expect big things from us,' but as yet it's all method and no results."

He said that the new findings belittle the work of a generation of scholars who focused on the 18th century as the turning point in the evolution of the criminal justice system.

Turkel, who developed some of the digital tools, said that data mining reveals unexpected trends and connections that no one would have thought to look for. □

“Cool”

Founders of the blog ‘Street Etiquette’ are serious

JON CARAMANICA

© 2011 New York Times

NEW YORK – The best posts on the style blog Street Etiquette find its principals, Travis Gumbs and Joshua Kissi, in motion. As opposed to the fascistically frozen street-style snaps of The Sartorialist and others, these pictures are styled and plotted fictions but also affecting ones, depicting a pair of young black men taking ownership not just of the body and what goes on it, but also of the environment it moves in. No one ever smiles on Street Etiquette: There's business to attend to.

Most days, the actual business of Kissi and Gumbs takes place in a workspace-cum-clubhouse on Bergen Street in Brooklyn. With vintage sweaters hanging from the ceiling and art books lining the walls, this is the nerve center of the Brooklyn Circus, whose flagship store is just a few dozen steps away, and which is a key collaborative partner for Street Etiquette, which began

the historical. Gumbs and Kissi, both 22, highlight specific themes – floral prints, the saddle shoe and so on – modeling them and detailing their history. They are careful caretakers, respectful students, tailoring loyalists and handsome models.

And they have become Internet-age fashion polymaths: stylists and models, but also writers, preservationists, photographers and editors – and soon, designers and retailers.

Already they have wide reach: Street Etiquette receives 20,000 page views a day. The two men are the most prominent public faces of a new burst of black dandyism taking root in small retail outlets, niche fashion lines and thoughtful style blogs.

“There's more than one cool now for black people,” Gumbs said on a recent Tuesday at the Bergen Street studio, wearing a slight wisp of a goatee and dark glasses that sharpened his round face. “When we were growing



Ouigi Theodore, owner and creative director of the history-inspired boutique Brooklyn Circus, at the shop in New York, Aug. 9, 2011. Theodore's shop collaborates with the founders of Street Etiquette, which began as a basic beautiful-things blog in 2008 but is now one of the foremost online repositories of black style.

(Danny Ghitis/The New York Times)

a deliberate elision of hip-hop style (except in the site's early days, when the two were still shaking free of their Air Jordans). They even eschew the prim eccentricity of an Andre 3000 or the cosmopolitan flam-

source of dignity, a theme that has run through generations of black American style, from Reconstruction to the Harlem Renaissance to the civil rights era to the mixed messages of the hip-hop era.

“I used to wear size 42 jeans,” Kissi said. “Coming from that to a tie and shirt, people perceive you in a whole different way.”

Fonzworth Bentley, hip-hop dandy, motivational speaker and author of “Advance Your Swagger: How to Use Manners, Confidence and Style to Get Ahead,” echoed that sentiment in recalling his efforts to get Sean Combs into more-elegant clothing: “He had to walk with his back different,” Bentley said. “He had to talk different. To bring class to hip-hop, that was the specific singular goal I had.”

Making a strong statement about cultural pride is central to the Street Etiquette mission. “It shows people of African descent in a good light,” said Kissi, whose family hails from Ghana. With Ouigi Theodore, the owner of Brooklyn Circus, Street Etiquette is collaborating on college speaking engagements under the “style and

character tour” banner. Said Theodore: “Where they're from and where I'm from, self-refinement isn't welcome in a sense. If you're hood, you're hood forever.”

The musician and actor Mos Def was turned on to Street Etiquette by a friend and was taken by the founders' direction. “They want to elevate the awareness level of young people in their communities,” he said. “As opposed to ‘We're better than y'all,’ it's ‘You can be this, too.’” He now serves as a mentor to the duo. “All of it is a political expression,” he said. “White people have all kinds of archetypes, from Brad Pitt to Al Bundy, everything in between. The cultural paradigms that are aggressively promoted to young black people and young poor people are extremely narrow.”

A new generation of black fashion entrepreneurs is emerging to fill this gap, among them Theodore of Brooklyn Circus; Brian and Autumn Merritt of Sir & Madame in Chicago; Ontario Armstrong and Clifton Wilson of Armstrong & Wilson in Philadelphia and several others. □



Joshua Kissi, left, and Travis Gumbs, both of Mount Vernon, N.Y., founded the blog Street Etiquette in New York, Aug. 8, 2011.

(Casey Kelbaugh/The New York Times)

as a basic beautiful-things blog in 2008 but is now one of the foremost online repositories of black style. The posts on Street Etiquette straddle the modern and

up, it was just one kind of cool.”

That was hip-hop, with its hegemonic style. But the men of Street Etiquette and their peers practice

boyance of Kanye West. Instead, this generation emphasizes the basics: great fabrics, aggressive tailoring, thoughtful accessorizing. It's a return to style as a



Aruba probes insurance in missing tourist case

ORANJESTAD, Aruba (AP)

— A U.S. tourist detained in the presumed death of his travel companion had an insurance policy that covered the missing woman, a prosecutor said Wednesday. Gary Giordano mentioned the travel insurance during questioning, but authorities haven't determined whether it is relevant to their investigation into the disappearance of 35-year-old Robyn Gardner, Solicitor General Taco Stein told The Associated Press. The policy included both travelers, but it wasn't clear whether it covered Gardner's accidental death, Stein said. Nor was it clear who was the beneficiary.

"If you travel, you take out insurance. That's not an uncommon thing, to say the least," Stein said. "It all depends on what's in the policy." Giordano, a 50-year-old businessman from Gaithersburg, Maryland, traveled to Aruba with Gardner on July 31 and reported her missing two days later, saying she disappeared while the two were snorkeling.

He assisted the search but was detained at the airport as he tried to leave the country. Authorities said they had questions about his account of what happened.

A judge ruled Monday there is enough evidence to hold him for at least 16 more days on suspicion of involvement in Gardner's presumed death. Aruban authorities plan an extensive search involving police, firefighters and possibly the military as investigators try to determine what happened to Gardner. □

"Divi IMPACT Foundation donates to Aruba North Little League"

PALM BEACH - The Divi IMPACT Foundation donated a sum of Afls. 1,000.00 to the Aruba North Little League who travelled on August 13th to William Sport, Pennsylvania to try and conquer the title of World Champions for Aruba. The Divi IMPACT Foundation is very proud to have contributed with this donation which will hopefully help cover some of the expenses for the kids while they will be in the States representing Aruba, our island. The Divi IMPACT Foundation hopes that upon the return of the kids they can still contribute in one way or another to the Aruba North Little League since the kids are the future of this island. The Foundation would like to wish all the best for the kids with the games and they know that they will definitely do a great job once again abroad! □



The perfect setting for their exotic photo shoot

Renaissance Resort Aruba chosen by Brazilian brand "Liquido"

ORANJESTAD- Production crew of "Liquido" exclusive swim wear, which is a well known Brazilian brand went into action on Renaissance Island to carry out their photo shoot for their fall/ winter magazine edition.

The "Liquido" production crew consisting of their photographer Morgade, international top model Barbara Fialho and Brazilian actor-model Diego Cristo visited Aruba to participate in a photo shoot for the "Liquido" swimwear portfolio. Renaissance Mall, Renaissance Marina Pool and Renaissance Island where amongst the locations chosen to give the "Liquido" photo shoot an exotic Caribbean touch. The results were dazzling!

"Renaissance Resort Aruba is very honored and proud to once again be able to receive such a tremendous international exposure, this shows that Aruba is the perfect destination to experience an exotic Caribbean vacation" this according to marketing manager Renaissance Resort Aruba, Mrs Zugheila Lindeborg. Caption: Models and the photographer pose together with Renaissance Island boat captain Mr. George Croes and Local Marketing Manager Mrs. Zugheila Lindeborg. □



...converting Aruba's 'sun' into electricity...

Renaissance Aruba introduces solar panel golf carts



ORANJESTAD—The movement for environmental protection has been done in different ways, in different parts of the world, throughout history. Renaissance Aruba wants to be part of this "Go Green" social environmental movement that focuses on the conservation and improve-

ment of our environment. With the introduction of the solar panel golf carts we continue with our commitment. Renaissance Aruba replaced their gas driven golf cart with an electric version and now introduces the solar panel golf cart which converts sun light

into electricity and makes it possible for the golf cart to operate trough out the day. Renaissance Aruba is the first resort that is using a solar panel golf cart. With the introduction of this golf cart Renaissance is able to contribute to the environment and save energy at the same time.□

She said 'Yesss!' at Salt & Pepper



PALM BEACH - Julie Kenie is engaged to be married! She said 'Yesss' to the love of her life, Todd Feeley, when asked her to be his wife last Tuesday at Salt & Pepper Restaurant in the Arawak Garden. Todd chose this terrific tapas restaurant for the momentous moment because the couple went there for the first time when vacationing

on Aruba, already six years ago. From that time on they have been together. Of course Salt & Pepper is now etched in their hearts even more than before. The staff of Salt & Pepper would like to congratulate the couple with their upcoming nuptials and wish them their very best. Ma-sha pabien!□

Seven teams hot to score at Café the Plaza's quiz night



ORANJESTAD - Seven teams of quiz fanatics were hot to score during the first night of the seven-week Quiz Night Series at Café the Plaza in the Renaissance Marketplace. Well-known team names like Synergy, the Corner

Girls, Cerebro Descocido, the Power Ladies, Eureka and of course, Bier Hier, were noted down by secretary Petra van Haren. The teams all scored well at the relatively easy questions like about the date of Elvis' death (August 16), the

colors of the Jamaican flag (green, yellow and black), the national flower of Mexico (the dahlia) and the counterpart of the Jamaican expression 'Irie' in Costa Rica (Pura Vida). Well, you might say these are not even that easy...



The more difficult questions were once again brainwrackers, but Bier Hier came out victorious with most of the answers right. The team, which is used by now to its champion status, is off to a good start. For people who might like

to pitch their knowledge against the expert teams at Café the Plaza on Tuesday nights: just show up before 8 pm with a few friends and play along. The questions come in clusters and there is a break in between to give your brains a rest.□

Full Sun Protection – In A Snap at Aruba Marriott



PALM BEACH - From August 16 – 20, 2011, Kristen McClellan, a senior at Cornell University is presenting her product SnappyScreen. The Aruba Marriott Resort is supporting Kristen in the development of SnappyScreen, an airbrush sunscreen application system that is a new, easy, and effective alternative to the tedious manual application of sunscreen.

"I got tired of having a zebra tan!" says McClellan, when asked how she came up with the idea for SnappyScreen. "Simply press the button, stand in front of the device, and let SnappyScreen do the rest" mentions McClellan. The device disperses a fine mist that completely covers the user with sunscreen.

Guests at the Aruba Marriott are able to make use of this easy way of full sun protection and give their feedback in a survey at the hotel. Kristen is at the Aruba Marriott's Towel Hut until Saturday August 20th, so feel free to drop by and get Snap-ped. □



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At The Westin Resort & Casino, Aruba

Top associates commended for excellence



PALM BEACH - Recently, all associates and management of The Westin Resort & Casino, Aruba were invited to attend a special luncheon in the resort's Caribbean Ballroom in honor of the nominees for Brand Champion of the Month for June.

The Brand Champion of the Month nominees were nominated by management for exemplifying Westin's core values, including providing personal touches and personalized services to 'surprise and delight' every guest, proactively anticipating guests' needs and making them

feel special, and recognizing the special touches offered by Westin to help guests restore the body, expand the mind, and elevate the spirit so they leave not only rested, but also renewed and enriched.

The nominated associates are recognized for inspiring their co-workers and making the extra efforts to improve their departments and go above and beyond expectations.

During a beautiful lunch buffet spread produced by the Westin's culinary and banquet teams, the following were named top of the class: From

Heart of the House for June-Joandrel Geerman from Sales, for her always positive and helpful attitude, and going above and beyond to ensure that special needs are being taken care of; from Front of the House for June-Cornelio Tagorda from the Terrace restaurant, for his excellent guest services skills and masterful approach to all his duties.

Pictured here is Cornelio being congratulated by Barbara Bird from Human Resources, and also with fellow nominees. Joandrel was unable to attend the event. Congratulations to all! □

Honoring at Marriott Surf Club



PALM BEACH - Recently ATA rep Darline S. de Cuba had the great pleasure in honoring many Loyal Aruba visitors their Goodwill Ambassador Certificate. These certificates are a way to say "Masha Danki" for continuously choosing Aruba as a favorite vacation destination. Honorees: Arlene and Stanley Greenberg from Whitestone New York as a Goodwill Ambassador. The recent honoring took place at Marriott Surf Club and was presented by Darline S. de Cuba, Aruba Tourism Authority Representative together with Luzdary Leest. □



Rafa Nadal winning despite burned fingers

Rafael Nadal, of Spain, returns a volley to Julien Benneteau, of France, during a match at the Western & Southern Open, Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2011 in Mason, Ohio.

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SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



NCAA is 5 months into U of Miami investigation

By STEVEN WINE

AP Sports Writer

CORAL GABLES, Fla. (AP)

— With investigators five months into checking allegations that a Ponzi scheme artist spent freely on University of Miami athletes, the NCAA president said Wednesday that if the claims are confirmed they show the need for “fundamental change” in college sports. Former Hurricanes booster Nevin Shapiro, now serving 20 years in federal prison, claims he provided players with cash, prostitutes, cars and other gifts from 2002 to 2010.

Shapiro told Yahoo Sports that 72 football players and other athletes at Miami received improper benefits from him in the past decade.

“If the assertions are true, the alleged conduct at the University of Miami is an illustration of the need for serious and fundamental change in many critical aspects of college sports,” NCAA president Mark Emmert said in a statement.

The Hurricanes’ entire football team practiced Wednesday, even though Shapiro’s claims involve several current players. Coach Al Golden said it was too soon to take disciplinary action. His team opens the season Sept. 5 against Maryland.

Last week, Emmert led a group of university presidents in drafting an outline for change in college sports.

Continued on Page 20

PLACEMENT TEST



Playoff spots up for grabs at Wyndham

Padraig Harrington, of Ireland, uses one of his wood covers to aid with his arm position while practicing on the driving range during the Pro-Am of the Wyndham Championship, at Sedgefield Country Club in Greensboro, N.C., Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2011.

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Playoff spots on the line at Wyndham Championship

JOEDY McCREARY

AP Sports Writer

GREENSBORO, North Carolina (AP) — The Wyndham Championship has attracted one of its best fields, partly out of desperation from some players.

The final tournament before the start of the PGA Tour's playoffs offers one last chance for players to climb the FedEx Cup rankings and claim a spot in The Barclays. Several would relish a big week in North Carolina. Ernie Els, who enters at No. 126, wrote on his official website that this is "last-chance saloon." Padraig Harrington is No. 130, four points behind No. 125 Camillo Villegas in the race to make golf's postseason. "I hope that I'll be the fairy tale story, but any of us guys who are slightly outside the FedEx Cup at the moment, if we qualify, we can go on and win (the playoffs)," Harrington said Wednesday. "That's the whole idea ... that anybody who is in the top 125 has a chance of winning it outright and being the best player of the year.

So, if myself or Ernie or any of the guys actually make it in, and we hit our A-games for four weeks, all of a sudden, we can be the FedEx Cup champion."

Meanwhile, No. 106 Retief Goosen and reigning playoff champion Jim Furyk want to solidify their spots in the standings. They're all a big part of what tournament director Mark Brazil has called the event's best field in 20 years. Harrington will tee off Thursday morning as part of one of the tournament's more intriguing groups. He'll be joined by two other big names who also are looking to play their way into the postseason — No. 142 Justin Leonard and No. 147 Paul Casey. The threesome has combined to win four majors. Harrington had a family trip to the Bahamas scheduled, but when he wound up on the playoff bubble, his wife urged him to sign up for Greensboro.



Retief Goosen, of South Africa, plays with his ball on the 10th tee before starting the Pro-Am of the Wyndham Championship, at Sedgefield Country Club in Greensboro, N.C., Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2011.

Associated Press

"If I do qualify, I'm really looking forward to the fact that I can be the underdog and come through and win it outright," Harrington said. "I suppose that's what the FedEx Cup was designed for." Jason Dufner certainly could use a strong showing at the par-70 Sedgefield Country Club to move forward after his late five-shot lead evaporated at the PGA Championship last week and Keegan Bradley beat him in a three-hole playoff. "I think it'll make me a better player," said Dufner, who at No. 25 doesn't have to worry about making the playoff field. "I feel like there's been more guys who have lost leads or lost tournaments in that situation and then have had greater finishes in the future than guys that have lost leads and you never heard of again." Two local favorites — Bill Haas and Webb Simpson, who played their college golf at nearby Wake Forest — are safely in the playoff field. Simpson enters 12th

on the points list with Haas three spots behind him. "It's about the time of year when the FedEx Cup playoff buzz starts going, and I think we've got a bunch of good names here because of it," Simpson said. "I think I'm in a position where I can make a nice run at the playoffs and try to win. This week, I don't think I can really hurt myself. I can definitely help myself with a good week." One player in the field can return to school after he makes some PGA Tour history. Olafur Loftsson, a rising senior at Charlotte, won the Cardinal Amateur across town to earn a sponsor's exemption into the Wyndham. That will make him the first player from Iceland to play a tour event. "People over there are very pleased to see me have some success," Loftsson said. "Very excited to be able to represent Iceland here and kind of show the world that we do play golf in Iceland and we can be pretty darn good." □

Sports Briefs

Sounders get off to winning starts

MEXICO CITY (AP) — MLS teams LA Galaxy and Seattle Sounders got off to winning starts Tuesday on the opening day of the CONCACAF Champions League.

The Galaxy defeated Montagua of Honduras 2-0 and Alajuelense of Costa Rica had a 1-0 win over Mexico's Morelia in Group A.

Seattle beat Comunicaciones of Guatemala 4-1 in Group D and, in Group B, Santos Laguna of Mexico defeated Real Espana of Honduras 3-2.

Landon Donovan scored one goal and assisted on another as the Galaxy overpowered a Montagua lineup that finished with 10 men.

Mike Fucito scored twice in Seattle's victory over Comunicaciones. Juan Arreola scored for the Guatemala side. Substitute Christian Suarez scored the deciding goal in the 74th minute in Santos Laguna's victory over Real Espana. □

IBF orders rematch of Mares' win

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The International Boxing Federation has ordered a rematch of Abner Mares' bantamweight title victory over Joseph Agbeko.

Mares won a narrow majority-decision victory last Saturday, but also threw several apparently low blows that went unpenalized by referee Russell Mora.

The order by IBF president Daryl J. Peoples claims that "inappropriate conduct by the referee affected the outcome of the fight."

Agbeko promoter Don King praised the IBF's order for a rematch in the next four months. Mares will be stripped of his title if he declines the rematch, and Agbeko would fight another challenger.

Mares' manager, Frank Espinoza, and Golden Boy Promotions haven't commented on the IBF's order. □

Federer asks Hingis about Olympics

MASON, Ohio (AP) — Roger Federer has approached Martina Hingis about playing mixed doubles together for Switzerland at next year's Olympics.

Federer says he has not personally spoken to Hingis about coming out of retirement, but one of his representatives has contacted the 30-year-old star. Hingis, a former No. 1 player, has won five Grand Slam tournaments and retired in 2007.

Mixed doubles has been added to the London Games. Federer said if he played with anyone he wanted it to be Hingis because she's an "amazing player." He has practiced with her and played with her at the Hopman Cup. Federer is playing at the Western & Southern Open, a tuneup for the U.S. Open that begins Aug. 29. □

CAS hears U.S. challenge to rule

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP) — The Court of Arbitration for Sport has completed an eight-hour hearing examining the legal validity of the IOC's so-called "six-month rule," which bars athletes sanctioned for doping from the following Summer or Winter Games.

CAS says its panel should deliver a verdict on the United States Olympic Committee's challenge "on or before Sept. 30."

CAS says the three-man panel was chaired by Canadian lawyer Richard McLaren. It included Michele Bernasconi of Switzerland and American Arbitration Association director David Rivkin.

Currently, athletes who receive doping bans of more than six months are ineligible for the next Olympics.

The USOC believes that is a second penalty for a single offense. The IOC says it should decide eligibility rules for athletes to compete in its events. □

WNBA Roundup

Taurasi's swipe saves comeback for Mercury

PHOENIX (AP) — Diana Taurasi picked off an errant pass by Sue Bird and made a driving shot with 6.3 seconds left to lift the Phoenix Mercury past the Seattle Storm 81-79 Tuesday night. Swin Cash missed an 8-footer and Taurasi knocked the ball out with 0.1 seconds left to preserve the win, which ended Phoenix's nine-game losing streak to the Storm and completed the second-biggest comeback in franchise history. The Mercury trailed by 18 in the first half, but Taurasi helped them chip away, and scored nine of her 24 points in the fourth quarter. Bird had 23 points and eight assists for the Storm, which has lost four of five. Penny Taylor and Candice Dupree each had 16 points for Phoenix, which moved to within four games of first-place Minnesota in the

West.

Sun 108, Lynx 79

At Uncasville, a sellout crowd came to see Maya Moore return to Connecticut, but Tina Charles stole the show with 18 rebounds and 16 points.

Connecticut earned a club record for regulation scoring, while sending Minnesota to its most lopsided loss of the season.

Renee Montgomery had 17 points and seven assists for Connecticut (16-8) while Kara Lawson had 16 points and made 4 of 5 3-pointers. Asjha Jones had 15 for the Sun and Kelsey Griffin added 14.

Liberty 69, Mystics 66

At Newark, Cappie Pondexter scored 26 points, including a driving basket with 13.5 seconds left, to help the Liberty end a two-game losing streak.

Crystal Langhorne scored

25 points for the Mystics (5-17).

Playing in her hometown, the Mystics' Matee Ajavon nailed a clutch 3-pointer with 25.3 seconds left to give the Mystics their first lead of the entire game at 66-65, after trailing by 16 in the first half.

But Pondexter drove the lane against Ajavon to provide the winning cushion.

Fever 65, Silver Stars 63

At San Antonio, Tamika Catchings scored 26 points to help the Indiana Fever to hold off the Silver Stars.

Danielle Robinson missed a jumper for the Silver Stars with 3.9 seconds left. Jia Perkins' 3-pointer with 41.4 seconds left pulled the Silver Stars within two points, but neither team was able to score after that.

The Fever (18-7) won their third straight game in a span that includes eight victories

in nine matches. Indiana trailed by four points in the third quarter but held San Antonio to 3 of 17 shooting in the fourth.

Dream 84, Sparks 79

At Los Angeles, Angel McCoughtry scored 23 points as the Atlanta Dream ruined the return of Candace Parker to the Sparks.

Parker had 15 points and 10 rebounds in her first game back since tearing the lateral meniscus in her right knee on June 26.

Erika de Souza added 18 points for Atlanta (12-12), which won for the ninth time in 12 games and moved to .500 for the first time this season.

DeLisha-Milton Jones scored 19 points and Natasha Lacy added 11 for the Sparks (9-14), who missed two field goals in the final 30 seconds.

In other WNBA games it was



Phoenix Mercury's Diana Taurasi (3) drives past Seattle Storm's Swin Cash to score in the third quarter of a WNBA basketball game, Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2011, in Phoenix. The Mercury defeated the Storm 81-79.

Associated Press

New York 69, Washington 66; Connecticut 108, Minnesota 79; Indiana 65, San Antonio 63; Phoenix 81, Seattle 79; and Atlanta 84, Los Angeles 79. □

Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "From the pier to your plate!"



ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fishermen of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad.

Driftwood owner Herby

Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean.

What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35 ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50 ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on a daily basis from 8am to 12 noon and from 1 pm to



Winners of Intl. LUHRS Marina Group Blue Marlin Release Tournament 2009

5pm.

Catch your own dinner

A charter includes:

captain, mate, all fishing equipment, bait, sodas and bottled water. On a full day charter sandwiches and snacks are also included. You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to www.driftwoodaruba.com.

Driftwood Restaurant

This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 3-course menu for just \$24.

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Rates per boat
Max. 6 people

Driftwood Restaurant

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Tel: (297) 583 2515

www.driftwoodaruba.com
Opening hours: every day, but Tuesdays from 5pm till 10:30pm. □



Serena Williams withdraws, No. 1 Wozniacki loses

JOE KAY
AP Sports Writer
MASON, Ohio (AP) — Serena Williams dropped out of the Western & Southern Open because of a sore toe Wednesday, her latest setback after nearly a year away from the court.

Her decision to rest her troublesome right foot cost the women's draw yet another high-profile player and raised doubts about her readiness for the U.S. Open. Venus Williams withdrew before the start because of a virus and defending champion Kim Clijsters couldn't play because of an injured abdomen. "I don't think this is a good time for me to take a big chance," Serena Williams said, after the big toe on her right foot bothered her during a morning workout. "I just don't think that would be smart." Her withdrawal gave Australia's Sam Stosur a free ride into the next round. The tournament lost top-ranked Caroline Wozniacki on Wednesday afternoon. Wozniacki dropped her



Christina McHale, of the United States, hits a backhand during a match against Caroline Wozniacki, from Denmark, at the Western & Southern Open, Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2011 in Mason, Ohio. McHale upset the top seeded Wozniacki 6-4, 7-5.
Associated Press

opening match for the second consecutive week, falling to American Christina McHale 6-4, 7-5 in the second round after a bye in the first. Third-seeded Victoria Azarenka withdrew before her evening match because of a strained right

hand. In the men's draw, top-ranked Novak Djokovic beat American Ryan Harrison 6-2, 6-3. No. 2 Rafael Nadal beat French qualifier Julien Benneteau 6-4, 7-5 while playing with two fingers on his right hand

bandaged to protect burned fingertips. The left-handed Nadal said he got the burns by touching a hot plate at a local restaurant. Serena Williams' withdrawal was unexpected. She had won two straight tournaments at Stanford and Toronto, gaining some momentum after missing nearly a year because of medical problems. Williams arrived looking to win three tournaments in a row for the first time since the start of the 2008 season. She beat Lucie Hradecka in two sets on Tuesday night, when the toe started bothering her. It was her seventh match in eight days and her 12th straight win, equaling the longest such streak on the WTA Tour this year. The toe was worse when she woke up on Wednesday — sore and a little swollen. She talked to her father and her sister before deciding to withdraw from the tournament. It's the same foot she cut on glass at a restaurant and had two operations.

"It's not as bad as it was before," she said. "It's just a lot of match play. I've been playing a lot of the matches, more than I have in a long time, and also training as well. It got a little aggravated. Instead of making it worse, I've decided it will be in my best health not to go on." The time off also will give her the opportunity to attend the wedding of reality TV personality Kim Kardashian, who is marrying NBA player Kris Humphries in California over the weekend. "Now that I have time, I probably will," she said. "I hadn't thought about it." After a news conference to announce her decision, Williams headed across Interstate 71 to enjoy a ride at Kings Island. The amusement park released a photo of her in the front row of its Diamondback roller coaster, holding back her hair at the start of a drop. While Williams was deciding to withdraw, Wozniacki was struggling to keep the ball in play. She also lost her opening match last week in Toronto. □

NCAA

Continued on Page 20

The group included Miami president Donna Shalala. "The serious threats to the integrity of college sports are one of the key reasons why I called together more than 50 presidents and chancellors last week to drive substantive changes to Division I intercollegiate athletics," Emmert said in his statement.

In the past 18 months, the football teams at Southern California, Ohio State, Auburn, Oregon, Michigan, North Carolina, Georgia Tech and LSU each have been investigated or sanctioned by the NCAA.

Shalala said she was upset, disheartened and saddened by Shapiro's allegations. "We will vigorously pursue the truth, wherever that path may lead, and I



This April 16, 2011, file photo shows Sebastian the Ibis, the Miami Hurricanes' mascot, leading the team on to the field for a spring NCAA college football game, at Lockhart Stadium in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
Associated Press

have insisted upon complete, honest and transparent cooperation with the NCAA from our staff and students," Shalala said in a statement. Most cases are resolved in six to seven months, but more complex investigations take longer, an NCAA official said.

Shapiro was sentenced to prison in June for masterminding a \$930 million Ponzi scheme, plus ordered to pay more than \$82 million in restitution to investors. He gave 100 hours of jailhouse interviews to Yahoo Sports, the website reported. NCAA investigators were

on the Miami campus this week and have interviewed Shalala and Shawn Eichorst, who was hired as athletic director in April to replace Kirby Hocutt. Golden, who is in his first year as Miami's coach after Randy Shannon was fired, said he's eager to obtain answers quickly, in part so his players don't repeat past mistakes. "If they were exposed to Mr. Shapiro, clearly we have to make sure we prevent that going forward," Golden said. "How did this guy, if he did, get around our players like that? ... We want to make sure it never happens again. It shouldn't happen." Yahoo Sports published its story Tuesday, saying in addition to the Shapiro interviews conducted over 11 months, it audited thousands of pages of financial and business records to examine his claims, some involving events nearly a decade ago. The NCAA's four-

year statute of limitations doesn't apply when there is a pattern of willful violations that continues into the past four years.

A person familiar with the situation said much of Shapiro's access to Hurricane programs in recent years was approved by Hocutt, who is now at Texas Tech. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because of the ongoing investigation. Hocutt, the person said, allowed Shapiro on the sideline before football games at times during the 2008 season, plus invited him to select gatherings reserved for the athletic department's biggest donors.

"That's what Kirby did," the person said. "His No. 1 job was to raise money and this Nevin Shapiro guy was one of the few people Kirby could get to write checks." In a statement, Hocutt said Shapiro was treated like other members of the Hurricane Club. □

AL Roundup

Red Sox split with Rays, fall behind Yankees

BOSTON (AP) — The Boston Red Sox fell half a game behind the New York Yankees in the American League East division race after splitting a doubleheader against the Tampa Bay Rays on Tuesday, winning the day game 3-1 but losing the nightcap 6-2. Boston's Jacoby Ellsbury hit a three-run homer, and Jon Lester struck out eight batters in the opener. Lester (12-6) outdueled fellow All-Star James Shields, who pitched nearly as well and deeper into the game but received little offensive support. Shields (11-10) retired the last 15 batters he faced and struck out six. He only allowed three hits but still took the loss.

Ellsbury has 21 homers this season; more than he hit over his first three seasons combined. In the second game, Tampa Bay rookie Desmond Jennings hit a homer and Jeff Niemann struck out 10 as the Rays won despite the Red Sox turning their first triple play in 17 years..

Niemann (8-4) pitched his first complete game of the season and won his seventh straight decision.

Yankees 9, Royals 7

In Kansas City, Robinson Cano hit a three-run homer into the Kauffman Stadium fountains to help New York down Kansas City.

Russell Martin and Derek Jeter each drove in a pair of runs for the Yankees.

New York starting pitcher

Ivan Nova (12-4) struggled almost as much as Royals starter Danny Duffy (3-7), allowing five runs through three innings, but he settled down to retire the side in order the next two innings, and survived long enough to notch his eighth straight win; the most by a Yankees rookie for 31 years.

Tigers 7, Twins 1

In Detroit, Justin Verlander allowed just one run in 7 2-3 innings to become baseball's first 18-game winner, leading Detroit to a comfortable win over Minnesota.

Verlander (18-5) labored through a 29-pitch first inning but settled down after that, striking out eight to surpass 200 this year. He walked only one and



Tampa Bay Rays' Ben Zobrist, right, slides in to steal home as Boston Red Sox catcher Jason Varitek covers the plate during the eighth inning of the second baseball game of a day-night doubleheader in Boston on Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2011.

Associated Press

lowered his season ERA to 2.31. Miguel Cabrera drove in three runs for the Tigers, and Ramon Santiago hit a

solo homer in the sixth.

Twins starter Nick Blackburn (7-10) allowed five runs in 4 2-3 innings. □

NL Roundup

Lyle Overbay lifts Diamondbacks past Phillies 3-2

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Lyle Overbay lined a two-RBI double off Roy Halladay in the ninth inning to lift the Arizona Diamondbacks to a 3-2 win over the Philadelphia Phillies on Tuesday night.

Overbay knocked in all three runs as Arizona won its seventh straight game.

Halladay (15-5) had retired 12 straight batters into the ninth. Halladay, trying to become the NL's first 16-game winner, allowed consecutive singles to open the inning. Overbay hit a one-out double to right that helped Arizona win the opener of the three-game series between NL division leaders.

Halladay equaled a career high with 14 strikeouts and tossed his seventh complete game.

Bryan Shaw (1-0) tossed a scoreless eighth and J.J. Putz worked the ninth for his 30th save. Putz fanned Jimmy Rollins with the tying run on second.

Shane Victorino hit a two-run homer off Arizona starter Josh Collmenter in the fifth.

Braves 2, Giants 1, 11 innings

At Atlanta, rookie Randall



Arizona Diamondbacks' Lyle Overbay follows through for an RBI-single during the second inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2011, in Philadelphia. The Diamondbacks won 3-2.

Associated Press

Delgado allowed no hits through six innings in his second big-league start as Atlanta pulled out another last at-bat win on Martin Prado's two-out single in the 11th.

Delgado was the star early on, allowing his lone hit on Cody Ross' leadoff homer in the seventh. Prado came through at the end, driving in Brooks Conrad from third with an opposite-field single to right off Javier Lopez (5-2). Conrad had reached on a ground-rule double while pinch-hitting.

Arodys Vizcaino (1-0) picked up his first big league win with two scoreless innings. The Braves won for the second straight night in their final at-bat and lead the NL with 22 of those victories.

Brewers 2, Dodgers 1

At Milwaukee, Mark Kotsay hit a tiebreaking RBI single in the ninth inning as Milwaukee beat Los Angeles to take its biggest lead in the NL Central this late in a season.

The Brewers have won 18 of 20 and are seven games

ahead of second-place St. Louis.

After a pitching duel between Yovani Gallardo and Chad Billingsley, the Dodgers bullpen imploded in the ninth.

Hong-Chih Kuo (0-2) issued a leadoff walk to Prince Fielder, then left for Mike MacDougal.

Casey McGehee singled on MacDougal's first pitch to put men on first and second and Yuniesky Betancourt walked on four pitches. Kotsay followed with a single.

Milwaukee is a major league-best 46-15 at home and has a bigger lead in the division than the 1982 Brewers did on their way to winning the AL East and the American League pennant.

Padres 6, Mets 1

At San Diego, rookie Cory Luebke pitched six strong innings and combined with three relievers on a four-hitter for the Padres.

Luebke (5-6) allowed one run and three hits, struck out five and walked three. Chad Qualls, Luke Gregerson and Erik Hamren each got three outs to complete the four-hitter. Nick Hundley had three hits, including two triples, for San Diego, which rapped out 15 hits to reach double figures for the second straight game.

Orlando Hudson drove in two runs and Cameron Maybin hit his eighth homer, a leadoff drive in the seventh.

New York starter Jonathon Niese (11-10) surrendered 10 hits over six innings, but allowed just three runs, two coming in the first. The left-hander struck out three and walked none. □

Liver Fire

By: Dr. Carlos Viana

As we approach the clinic, a gentleman is quietly waiting for his first Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) consultation. Several other people seem restless and anxious, talking loudly, almost shouting although they have only been sitting for a short time. After a long unusual season of rain, most of us are grateful to sit in the sunshine and invite the trade winds back.

However, although it is not yet the time of "high winds" as spring nears, we have bursts of the heavy breezes, which are the trade mark of our Island. The tropical sun can be unbearable with no wind, but for some, heavy wind becomes just as unbearable. In the Peoples Republic of China, we called the destructive effects of high wind, "wind evil." Most people can withstand the negative consequences of gale force wind, but some, who have been consuming greasy or otherwise unhealthy foods, drinking too much alcohol or working too much the wind may bring a "sickness."

Anger, frustration, resentment and hatred over a long period of time can also make one susceptible to the negative effects of wind. Today's group brings a mix of symptoms and complaints which has not been relieved by other methods. We will begin now, with anemia, men-

strual problems, pale, fungus or easily broken fingernails, then liver problems, headaches, high blood pressure, eye and ear troubles, difficulty sleeping or waking up between 1 and 3 am.

We find a whole host of stomach problems, swollen or painful chest or breast, heart palpitations, not being able to swallow in spite of no throat infection. Some "wind" affected people can be spotted from afar. They have a green hue around their mouths. Some as they walk into clinic leave a trail of strong perfume being used to cover up a sour body smell. Some people can barely walk in before they exclaim that they are "going crazy."

The wind will get stronger as spring approaches. With more wind, more people with "affected livers" will arrive. Many will hear me say "Your liver is hot!" "What? Is something wrong with my liver? I just checked and my house/family doctor said that everything was normal on my blood tests"

A "hot" or "Liver Fire" will not show up on any medical test, except as possible liver hepatitis. If a medical symptom cannot be measured on a lab test, does it really exist? To some doctors, if all the medical tests come back "negative," then the problem is "in your head." Oriental Medical Doctors (OMD), look at human organs from a different perspective

than standard or Western medicine. Western medicine studies only physical aspects of the organs. OMD's are trained to look at the amount of energy an organ uses in relation to the other organs. We use the heart beat of both radial pulses to determine the amount of energy being or not being used by each organ.

We "read" or feel the pulse on both hands to evaluate 29 organ functions. Each pulse position tells us about a different organ and their relationships to each other.

For example, if there is no pulse in the Kidney position, we know that the adrenal gland, which sits on top of the kidneys, is working overtime. This can interrupt proper sleep. Without sufficient Kidney Yin, there is no "Yin" energy to send to the Liver. If the liver has no Yin energy, hyperthyroidism or over-active thyroid, hypertension or high blood pressure, and/or eye problems develop because of "Liver Fire." If these deficiencies persist, the "Liver Fire" rises and begins to affect the stomach and heart. Deficient Heart Yin turns sleep problems into full blown insomnia, sometimes with heart palpitations' and hearing problems.

Unchecked, this becomes "Heart Fire Blazing Upwards" which can be felt in the throat as "something there," mucus or a "lump." Some people have their adenoids or



dr. Carlos Viana

tonsils and even thyroid removed with the feeling continuing. When the "Fire Blazing Upwards" reaches the head, symptoms include; ringing in the ears, dry, watery or twitching eyes, headaches and migraines.

Adrenaline that is being over-produced stimulates the sympathetic nervous system. This makes the heart beat faster, closes or dilates the blood vessels and relaxes the bronchial tubes. Blood Pressure can rise and emotional problems begin many times leading to prescription tranquilizing medication.

Get The Point! People coming to clinic complaining of unexplained anger, stomach problems, heart problems, a feeling that "something is stuck in m throat", headaches at the temples, dizziness, the list goes on; yet, they are all suffering from liver fire. Natural herbs and acupuncture quickly start feeling better. We are entering the time of year when liver have a tendency to

"blaze" upwards producing all these possible symptoms. Want to feel better? Come in so we can check the function of your liver and make sure you are as healthy as you can be.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER, Kibaima 7, St Cruz TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: www.vianaheal.com

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Google-Motorola deal highlights patent arms race

PETER SVENSSON

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — When an Internet company plunks down \$12.5 billion to buy a struggling cellphone company for its collection of patents, it's another sign that, for the high-tech industry, patents have become a mallet wielded by corporations to pummel their competitors.

Google Inc. announced the deal to buy Motorola Mobility Holdings Inc. on Monday, specifically for its trove of 17,000 patents. Google needs them to shield companies like HTC Corp. and Samsung Electronics Co. —who make phones based on Google's Android software— from lawsuits filed by Microsoft Corp. and Apple Inc.

"Google is not acquiring Motorola for the sake of its technology or its research," said James Bessen, a lecturer at Boston University and co-author of a book on the patent system. "Patents have become legal weapons — they're not representing ideas anymore."

The trend, decades in the making, raises questions that pending patent legislation in Washington only begins to answer.

Google's multi-billion bid to get its hands on Motorola's output of legal paperwork is the culmination of a "bubble" in the value of patents relating to smartphones that started last year, as Microsoft and Apple mounted their legal attack. Industry watchers say that bubble may deflate now that Google is set to gain the protection of Motorola's patents in a deal that's set to close late this year or early next.

But an underlying problem will keep growing: patent filings and lawsuits that distract companies and sap resources that are better spent on other things.

Engineers spend their time writing patents rather than inventing things, or reworking products just to avoid patent infringement. Customers put off purchases because of pending lawsuits, and independent software developers close up shop because they can't afford licensing fees.

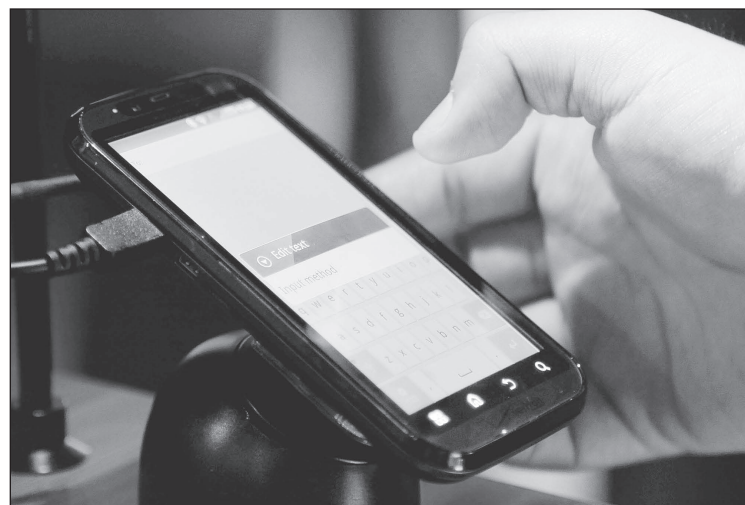
"If you have to pay \$12.5 billion dollars to play, you can sense why maybe an individual who has a great idea would feel discouraged," said Julie Samuels, a patent lawyer with the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a technology-oriented civil liberties group. "It affects the whole economy." It wasn't always this way. The U.S. software industry got its start with nary a patent filed, and on the hardware side, patent suits were rare until the mid-1980s.

That was when calculator and chip maker Texas Instruments Inc., on the brink of extinction, decided to see if it could make some money from its patent portfolio. It started filing patent lawsuits and demanding money from companies with infringing products. It saved the company.

IBM Corp. latched on to TI's lead in patent licensing in the mid-90s, when it was down on its luck. That coincided with courts broadening the types of patents allowed. Patents on software and "business methods," with vague, broad claims, were now accepted.

Since then, an arms race has slowly escalated in the industry. Companies found that the best defense against a patent suit from a rival was to have a patent portfolio to wield as a deterrent: "Sue me and I'll sue you back," is the message Google is sending by buying Motorola.

Motorola is already suing Apple over several patents,



In this Jan. 6, 2011 file photo, a buyer tests Motorola's Droid Bionic 4G phone at the Consumer Electronics Show, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

including one that purports to cover the act of sending address data between two phones.

Another patent at issue covers the idea of concealing a phone's antenna in its outer case, which Apple arguably does with the iPhone 4.

It's a situation reminiscent of the nuclear standoff between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. But just as the threat of nuclear weap-

ons didn't stop third-world guerillas during the Cold War or deter terrorists today, the patent arsenals are useless against "patent trolls" — companies that own patents but don't do actual research or development. Since they don't make anything themselves, they can't be the targets of patent suits, says Colleen Chien, assistant professor at the University of California, Berkeley. □

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Core wholesale inflation up most in 6 months

CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S.

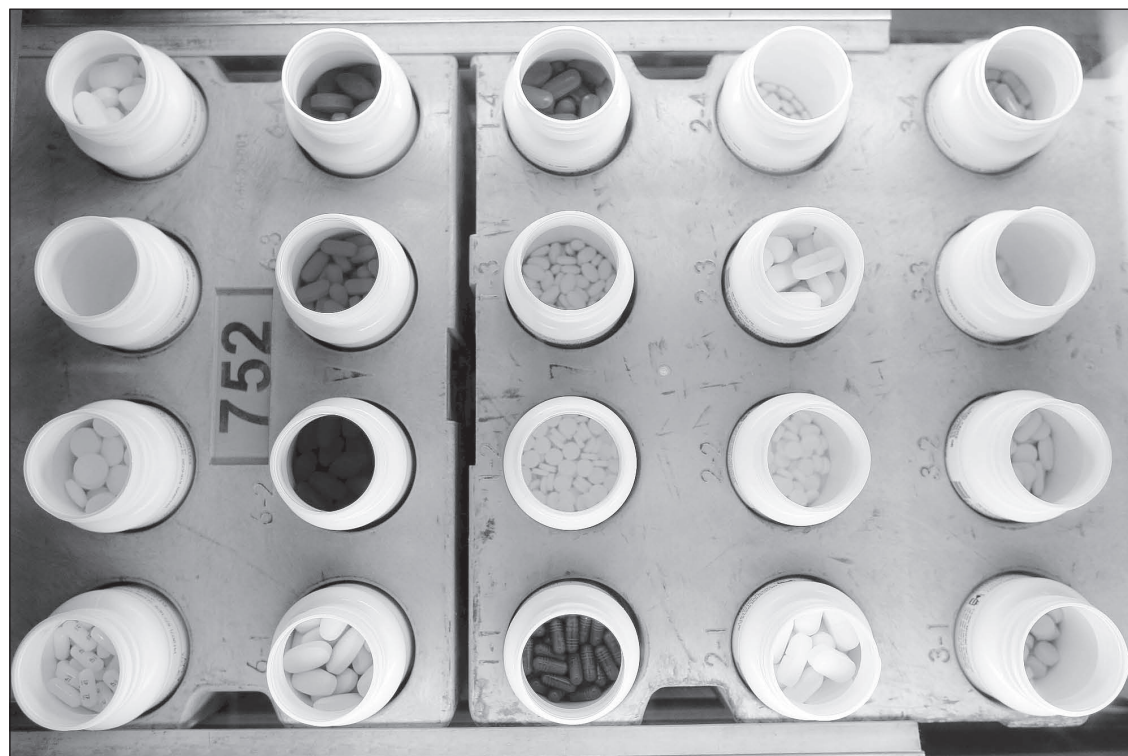
companies paid higher prices for tobacco, pickup trucks and pharmaceuticals in July, driving underlying wholesale inflation up by the most in six months.

This measure of inflation, which excludes volatile food and energy prices, is known as the core Producer Price Index. It rose 0.4 percent in July, the biggest increase since January.

The overall PPI, which measures price changes in goods before they reach the consumer, rose 0.2 percent last month, the Labor Department said Wednesday. That follows a 0.4 percent drop in June, the first decline in 17 months.

Gas prices fell for the second straight month. Food costs rose 0.6 percent, the biggest rise since February. The jump in the core index is unlikely to continue, economists said.

One reason is that raw material prices are increasing at a slower pace than the



In this June 14, 2011 photo, various prescription drugs on the automated pharmacy assembly line at Medco Health Solutions, are displayed in Willingboro, N.J. Companies paid higher prices for tobacco, pickup trucks and pharmaceuticals in July, driving underlying wholesale inflation up by the most in six months.

Associated Press

finished goods tracked by the PPI.

Also, the higher core reading was driven largely by costlier tobacco products and pricier pickup trucks,

which are probably one-time events.

Tobacco prices, which are affected by seasonal factors, jumped 2.8 percent. That was the largest increase in more than two years.

Truck prices rose 1 percent, but that largely reflects supply disruptions stemming from the Japan earthquake. The impact of those disruptions are started to fade, based on other data.

"Overall, these data do little to alter our belief that most of the recent surge in core consumer price inflation is temporary and that it will fall back next year," said Paul Dales, senior U.S. economist with Capital Economics.

The PPI has increased 7.2 percent in the past 12 months. That's up sharply from earlier this year but below May's rise of 7.3 percent, which was the

biggest in two and a half years.

The core index has increased 2.5 percent in the past 12 months, the most since June 2009.

Higher wholesale prices raise pressure on retailers, grocery stores and restaurants to pass along the costs to consumers. But that will be difficult, because high unemployment and stagnant wages are causing consumers to hold back on spending.

"Modest inflationary pressures are building, although they are likely to recede ... over the balance of the year as last year's energy price surges" taper off, Steven Wood, an economist at Insight Economics, said in a note to clients.

Consumers are seeing some relief from high gas prices, which are expected to keep falling.

Earlier this year, food and gas prices spiked and caused the Producer Price Index to jump 1.5 percent in February, after a 1 percent gain the previous month.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke faced criticism that the central bank's policies were contributing to higher inflation. The Fed has kept the short-term interest rate it controls at nearly zero since December 2008. □

Oil rises on signs of better demand, weaker dollar

CHRIS KAHN

AP Energy Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Oil rose Wednesday as traders

focused on an unexpectedly large drop in U.S. gasoline stockpiles and a weaker dollar.

Benchmark West Texas Intermediate crude for September delivery rose 93 cents to finish at \$87.58 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Brent crude, which is used to price many international oil varieties, increased by \$1.47 to end the day at \$110.60 per barrel on the ICE Futures exchange in London.

Oil rose early in the day on reports that the nation's gasoline supply dropped more than expected last week. The Energy Information Administration said gasoline supplies fell by 3.5 million barrels last week to 210.1 million barrels. Analysts expected a drop of 2.3 million barrels, according to Platts, the energy-information arm of McGraw Hill Cos.

PFGBest analyst Phil Flynn said the drop in gasoline supplies is a promising sign for the economy. "It suggests that demand for gasoline is improving a little bit," Flynn said.

Increasing demand for gasoline would suggest that refineries will also need more oil, which is used to make gasoline.

EIA said that crude supplies increased by 4.2 million barrels last week. When the amount of oil that was pumped out of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve last week is included, the country's overall oil supply actually dropped by 1.7 million barrels. □

MetroPCS starts unlimited music plan with Rhapsody

RYAN NAKASHIMA,

AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — MetroPCS Communi-

cations Inc., America's fifth-largest wireless phone carrier, is jumping into the unlimited music business behind its smaller competitor, Cricket.

The company said Wednesday it is now offering unlimited on-the-go access to 12 million tracks through subscription music provider Rhapsody. The plan is bundled with unlimited voice, text and Web access on Android-powered smartphones for \$60 a month.

The entry into the subscription music field follows the huge success of Muve Music, a \$55-a-month plan offered by prepaid wireless phone provider Cricket, the seventh-largest carrier and a division of Leap Wireless International Inc.

Muve added 100,000 subscribers within

months of launching in January and found its users downloaded hundreds of songs each month and listened for two to three hours a day. Muve Music is now available only on a Samsung Suede feature phone with stripped-down capabilities, but it plans to roll out on Android devices in the fall.

MetroPCS said its customers who use Android phones were already listening to other streaming music offerings such as the free Internet radio service, Pandora. Internal surveys also suggested high interest in a subscription music plan, said Gavin Throckmorton, staff vice president of product management at MetroPCS.

"Providing our customers with a high value, mobile entertainment experience is exactly what they're looking for," he said.

Rhapsody has about 800,000 subscribers. Its stand-alone plan costs \$10 a month. □

A big bounce, ounce by ounce, as gold takes off

SARAH DILORENZO

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — For what is normally a sleepy month, there are so many customers at the Gold Standard, a New York company that buys jewelry, that it feels like Christmas in August. Uncle Ben's Pawn Shop in Cleveland has never seen a rush like this.

Welcome to the new American gold rush. The price of gold is on a remarkable run, setting a record seemingly every other day. Stomach-churning volatility in the stock market this month has only made investors covet gold more.

Some want it as a safe investment for turbulent times. What worries some investors is that many others are buying simply because the price is rising and they want to make money fast. "Is gold the next bubble?" asks Bill DiRocco, a golf company manager in Overland Park, Kansas, who shifted 10 percent of his portfolio earlier this year into an investment fund that tracks the price of gold. He stopped buying because the price kept rising.

In October 2007, it sold for about \$740 an ounce. A little over a year later, it rose above \$1,000 for the first time. This past March, it began rocketing up. On Wednesday, it traded above \$1,793 an ounce, just shy of last week's record of \$1,801.

Meanwhile, stocks, despite rising sharply in the last two and a half years, are only slightly higher in price than they were a decade ago. Since hitting a record high in October 2007, the Standard & Poor's 500 index is down 23 percent.

Gold hits a sweet spot among the elements: It's rare, but not too rare. It's chemically stable; all the gold ever mined is still around. And it can be divided into small amounts without losing its properties. Ultimately, though, gold is valuable because we all agree it is. It was used around the world as a cur-

rency for thousands of years, and then it gave value to paper currencies for a couple of hundred more.

Now, in a time of turmoil, from the credit downgrade and debate over raising the debt limit in the U.S. to the growing financial crisis in Europe to worries of slow growth across the globe, gold is dazzling investors. Since the financial crisis in 2008, central banks around the world have bought gold as a hedge against their foreign currency holdings. Earlier this month, South Korea announced it had bought gold for the first time in more than 10 years. Gold is "an effective hedge in a world where there is too much debt and uncertainty," says Jim McDonald, chief investment strategist at Northern Trust, which owns \$2.8 billion of gold in a gold fund.

The last time gold prices rose so precipitously was a few years after President Richard Nixon ended a decades-long fixed relationship between the value of the dollar and the value of gold. In those days, the price of gold was fixed at about \$35 an ounce. And many foreign currencies were pegged to the dollar. Gold gave the dollar its value, and the dollar gave everything else value.

Then the U.S. began running a trade deficit, and dollars piled up abroad. Central banks could redeem dollars for gold. But it was a poorly kept secret that the U.S. didn't have enough gold to cash out every dollar in circulation.

To head off a rush, Nixon "closed the gold window," essentially saying that confidence in the U.S. government, not gold, gives the dollar its value. Gold and the dollar began to rise and fall freely, and gold earned its place as protection against the falling dollar when confidence lags.

As inflation worsened later in the 1970s and dollars were worth less, the price of gold took off. Gold hit its high in 1980 — \$850 an

ounce, or more than \$2,300 in today's dollars.

This time is different because gold is rallying against all currencies, not just the dollar, says Jim Grant, editor of Grant's Interest Rate Observer.

"Gold is the reciprocal of the world's faith in the world's central banks," Grant says, and right now, "the world is in a pickle." Gold prices will probably keep rising until the U.S. and Europe get their finances in order, he says — and Grant doesn't expect that to happen soon. He predicts inflation, low for the moment, will soar, further eroding the value of the dollar and



In this July 27, 2011 photo, Davis Hardgrove performs a "scratch test" on a piece of gold jewelry that a customer brought in to sell at a coin shop, in Seattle.

Associated Press

leaving only gold as a good investment.

Cetin Ciner, a professor of finance at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington, disagrees. He thinks gold is near a peak and people who buy now are blindly chasing the rising price.

"I'm thinking of it as like the dot-com stocks," Ciner says.

Both Ciner and Grant caution, however, that when it comes to gold prices, no one really knows. That's because gold doesn't have intrinsic value. It doesn't offer an interest rate, like a bond, or represent a share of a company, like a stock. It is inherently speculative as an investment: You only make money if the price goes up. □



In this undated handout file photo from Newmont Mining Corporation, gold nuggets and bars are shown.

Associated Press

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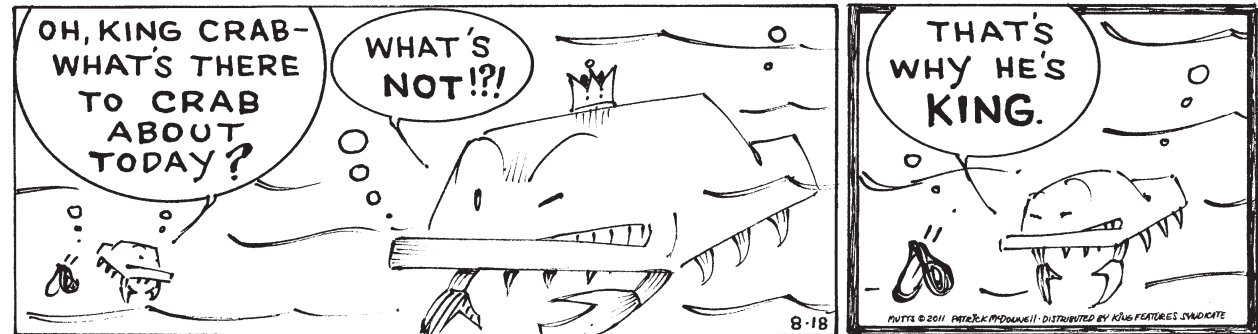
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Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



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Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

3				4	8			6
		8	2					
			1				7	
4							3	1
7								2
	5	6						9
	9				6			
					3	8		
2			9	7				3

Difficulty Level ★★

8/18

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

2	8	7	5	6	4	9	3	1
6	4	9	1	3	8	7	2	5
5	3	1	9	2	7	6	8	4
1	2	6	4	8	9	3	5	7
4	5	8	2	7	3	1	6	9
7	9	3	6	1	5	8	4	2
3	1	5	8	9	2	4	7	6
9	7	4	3	5	6	2	1	8
8	6	2	7	4	1	5	9	3

ACROSS

- Slay
- Force; urge on
- Surrounded by
- Notion
- San __, CA
- City in Texas
- Warty hopper
- Retinues
- Leprechaun
- Become dim
- Ascend
- Little mountains
- Peculiar
- Large kitchen appliances
- Runs after
- Dried dishes
- Place to sit
- Brewery tub
- Mischief makers
- Remembered Texas mission
- Ring of light above a saint
- "__ whiz!"
- Overact
- 21-gun salute, for example
- Hummed along
- Actor/producer __ L. Jackson
- Japan's dollar
- Light wood ideal for rafts
- Charley horse, for one
- Story
- Prefix with angle or cycle
- Yellow belly
- Roaring beast
- Zits
- "Little Orphan __"
- Wraps up
- Close by
- Get on one's feet
- "By the Time __ to Phoenix"

DOWN

- Windy day toy
- False deity
- Plant-sucking insect
- Boy
- High principles
- Obeys
- Sampras or Rose
- Personality
- "Skip to My __"
- Prizes
- 3 biblical kings
- Frosts a cake
- Prescribed amount
- "M*A*S*H" role
- Ran away
- Currier and __; printmakers
- "The Buckeye State"
- Single swallow of a drink
- Used a stopwatch
- Arrived
- Appraising
- Ointment
- Clumsy fellow
- Derby or fez
- Hammer or awl
- Prayer closing

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15					16			
17					18					19			
20				21						22			
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26	27						28				29	30	
31						32	33				34		35
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39				40						41			
	42		43					44					
			45					46					
47	48	49					50				51	52	53
54					55	56				57			
58					59					60			
61					62					63			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/18/11

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

DAY	ABYSS	BLAB
EGOS	TROUT	AIDE
BORE	TIGER	REDS
GERMINATE	RUST	
VALE	NAE	
SAHARA	EGGPLANT	
CRANE	SLATE	FEE
RENT	CLASH	STAR
AND	SOUTH	BIERS
MASSACRE	COARSE	
INK	REAM	
CHIC	ABSENTEES	
HONK	TENET	SCAB
ANTE	OLIVE	ERGO
PEON	OTTER	USA

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8/18/11

- Show-offs
- Foe
- Store clearance
- stew; white, creamy soup
- Like anchovies & potato chips
- Sink
- Reach across
- Walk the floor
- Nicole Smith
- Turner or Fey
- Went by train
- MIT, for one
- Existed
- Colony insect
- Luau garland

Today in History

Today is Thursday, August 18, the 230th day of 2011. There are 135 days left in the year. Highlights in history on this date:

1527 - French forces take Pavia and Genoa in Italy.
 1649 - Turkey's Sultan Ibrahim is deposed, assassinated and succeeded by Mohammed IV.
 1812 - Russian forces are defeated at Smolensk, which is occupied by French.
 1870 - Western Australia is granted representative government.
 1894 - U.S. Congress establishes the Bureau of Immigration.
 1976 - Two U.S. Army officers are hacked to death by axe-wielding North Korean border guards at the truce village of Panmunjom.
 1977 - U.S. President Jimmy Carter's administration denounces as illegal Israel's decision to establish three new Jewish settlements on the West Bank.
 1986 - Sudanese rebel group claims responsibility for shooting down Sudan Airways passenger plane in which all 60 people aboard were killed.
 1990 - The death toll from Sri Lanka's civil war is at 3,350 persons. At least 2,000 are civilians. A 13-month ceasefire in the seven-year-old conflict between the army and ethnic Tamil separatist rebels was broken in June.
 1994 - A powerful earthquake rips through north-west Algeria, collapsing thousands of dwellings and killing at least 150 people.
 1995 - Flash floods in the Marrakesh region of Morocco kill at least 73 people.
 1996 - In Pakistan, gunmen fire on a group of Shiite worshippers in central Punjab province, killing 18 people and injuring 100.
 1997 - Typhoon Winnie begins a sweep through Asia, killing 28 in Taiwan, then hits China, causing at least US\$2.6 billion in damage and killing as many as 56 people.
 1998 - Congolese rebels send President Laurent Kabila's troops fleeing as they advance to within 200

kilometers (125 miles) of the capital, now deprived of electricity.

2000 - Indigenous people belonging to a tribe be-



Today is Robert Redford's birthday

lieved to have been decimated 80 years ago are located in the jungles of the Amazon state of Acre in Brazil.

2001 - Wildfires burn 5,000 acres (2,000 hectares) in a drought-stricken Washington state. More than 93,000 acres has been destroyed across the state's arid east side in the past week.

2002 - Heads of government from Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic and Slovakia convened in Berlin to organize financial relief efforts after more than a week of the worst flooding that led to at least 109 deaths across Europe, and caused an estimated \$20 billion in damage.

2004 - Prisoners clash with knives, sticks and rocks at a San Salvador jail, leaving at least 23 dead and two dozen injured.

2005 - Security forces kill Saleh Mohammed al-Aoofi, al-Qaida's top leader in Saudi Arabia, and five other Islamic extremists in gunbattles in Medina in the first major anti-terror sweep since King Abdullah took the throne earlier in the month.

2006 - U.N. and maritime agencies promise help to Lebanon to clean up an oil slick caused by Israeli bombing during month-long fighting. The spill has

been described as Lebanon's worst-ever environmental disaster.

2007 - Two men hijack a Turkish passenger plane bound for Istanbul, holding several people hostage for more than four hours before surrendering, officials said.

2008 - Pervez Musharraf resigns as the president of Pakistan.

2009 - A terminally ill Libyan man convicted in the 1988 Lockerbie airline bombing moves closer to being allowed to die outside of his Scottish prison cell when a court agrees he can drop an appeal against his conviction.

2010 - The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency opens a counterproliferation center to combat the spread of dangerous weapons and technology, a move that comes as Iran is on the verge of fueling up a new nuclear power plant.

Today's Birthdays:
Antonio Salieri, Italian composer (1750-1825); Meriweather Lewis, American explorer (1774-1809); Lord John Russell, English statesman (1792-1878); Shelley Winters, U.S. actress (1920-2006); Roberto Clemente, Puerto Rican baseball player (1934-1972); Roman Polanski, Polish film director (1935--); Robert Redford, U.S. actor (1936--).

Thought For Today:
New opinions are always suspected, and usually opposed, without any other reason but because they are not already common — John Locke, English philosopher (1632-1704).

Time Share Casa del Mar
 2 Br 2Bath Presidential Rm 1413 sleeps 5 \$5975
 wk 39 Casa p.m. Ambass. Rm 1327 1 Br king bed queen sofa \$2700 all + mf
 E-mail rmwjmw@aol.com 508-651-0016

Classifieds

For Sale

Time Share Rentals Cheap
 Casa del Mar 8/27 to 9/3
 2 Br - 2 Bath \$695
 Divi Dutch Village 8/27 to 9/3
 Studio \$525
 and La Cabana 8/26 to 9/2 Studio \$480
 E-mail rmwjmw@aol.com 508-651-0016

178049

For Sale

Playa Linda
 1 Bedroom sleeps 5
 Ocean Side
 USA: Cooper
 001-516-470-1574
 Email: irascoop@optonline.net
 Fx: 00-516-605-1064

190468

For Sale

Time Share for sale by owner
 Divi Dutch Village of property
 studio Rm 128 king bed queen sofa
 wk 35 sleeps 4 8/27 \$3900
Divi Phoenix ocean front Rm 705
 wk 36 aprox 9/11
 all amenities king bed queen sofa, sleep 4 \$5400. Also La Cabana
 Studio Rm 305 B wk 35 late Aug sleep 4 \$2500 all +mf
 E-mail rmwjmw@aol.com 508-651-0016

192221B

For Sale

Time Share for sale by owner
 Casa del Mar Amb. Ocean front
 Prop. 1 Br units
 wk 29 July 16 Rm 1326 sleeps 4 king bed queen sofa also wk 31
 July 30 Rm 1134 \$2700 each + mf and wk 33 mid Aug. Rm 1435 \$2500 call Aruba Beach Club 582-3000 Rm 126 until 8/5
 E-mail rmwjmw@aol.com 508-651-0016

192221A

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 Sunset views!
 wks can be switched
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DOCTOR ON DUTY
ORANJESTAD
 18 AUGUST
Dr. Anthony

Pharmacy on duty
ORANJESTAD:
Botica Kibrahacha Tel: 582-2007
SAN NICOLAAS:
Centro Medico Tel: 584-5779

Police

Police	581-1100
Oranjestad	582-4000
Noord	587-0009
Sta. Cruz	585-4710
Savaneta	584-7000
San Nicolas	584-5000

Emergency Numbers

Emergency	911
Police	100
Fire Dept.	115
Fire Dept. II	582-1108
Police Tipline	11141
Hospital	587-4300

Oranjestad

Ambulance	582-1234
Police	582-4000

San Nicolas

Ambulance	584-5050
Police station	584-5000
BGD San Nicolas	584-1606
Valero Security	584-1720

Services

Information	118
Setar	582-5151
Taxi	582-2116
Taxi- Tas	587-5900
Professional Taxi	588-0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587-2300
Service Aruba	583-3232

Cruise Ship

22 Ocean Dream



Aruba Airport	Tel: 524-2424
American Airlines	Tel: 582-2700
Avianca	Tel: 588-0059
Dutch Antilles	Tel: 588-1900
Insel Air	Tel: 588-9314
Jet Blue	Tel: 588-2244
Spirit Airlines	Tel: 582-7117
Suriname Airways	Tel: 582-7896
Tiara Air	Tel: 588-4272
Venezolana	Tel: 583-7674

Foundation Fellowship Clinic
 Tel: 584-6440
 Alcoholism & Drug Addiction, Anonymity guaranteed
Foundation Anti-Droga Aruba
 (FADA) Tel: 583-2999
Foundation Respetami
 Tel: 582-4433
Diabetic Foundation Arubano
 Tel: 583-3808
Narcotics Anonymous
 Tel: 583-8989
Foundation Amor pa Prohimo
 Tel: 583-3354 / 586-6976
Women in Difficulties Foundation
 Tel: 583-5400

192221C

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

But other astronomers disagree with a new study's conclusions. They think the moon is up to its typical age-defying tricks and is really pushing 4.6 billion as they have suspected all these years.

"It's not as ancient as we might think," said study chief author Lars Borg, a geochemist at the Lawrence Livermore National Lab. His study appears online Wednesday in the jour-



Associated Press

That means there are two possibilities, Borg said. Either the moon is 200 million

MIT astronomer Maria Zuber called the study in *Nature* “very puzzling.” □

[illegible]



Singer Katy Perry attends the premiere of "The Smurfs" at the Ziegfeld Theatre in New York. Perry proven she's a multi-hit wonder, becoming the first woman to score five No. 1 songs from one album on the Billboard Hot 100 chart.

(AP Photo/Evan Agostini, file)

Katy Perry ties Jackson record on Billboard

NEW YORK (AP) — When Katy Perry first came on the scene, some dismissed her as a one-hit wonder. Three years later, she's proven she's a multi-hit wonder, becoming the first woman to score five No. 1 songs from one album on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. Her "Last Friday Night (T.G.I.F.)" set the precedent: It's the latest No. 1 from her platinum album "Teenage Dream." Only Michael Jackson had five No. 1s from one album before Perry, from "Bad." But Jackson spent a total of seven weeks at the top with his "Bad" songs; Perry has been at the top perch now for a cumulative 18 weeks. Perry's first major hit was the song "I Kissed a Girl" in 2008. □

Music producer killed by gunmen in Jamaica

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — A Jamaican music producer for a top reggae label has been shot to death outside his home in an upscale neighborhood of the Caribbean island's capital.

Police in Kingston say Joel Chin was attacked late Tuesday after he stepped out of his car in the driveway of his home. Police have not disclosed a possible motive.

Chin was the grandson of Vincent "Randy" Chin, a pioneering reggae producer from Jamaica who established VP Records in New York. The company has made stars out of artists like Sean Paul and Beenie Man. VP Records says Joel Chin moved from New York to Jamaica two years ago to spend more time on music. The label says the 35-year-old was instrumental in launching the careers of several reggae stars. □

Black Eyed Peas' Central Park concert is back on

(NY Times) - When the Black Eyed Peas canceled their June 9 concert on the Great Lawn in Central Park because of lightning, thousands of fans who were already in the park refused to leave, chanting "We Won't Go."

Others swarmed the surrounding streets, halting traffic on West 72nd Street and Central Park West. And Taylor Swift, who was set to appear alongside the Black Eyed Peas, posted a frowning face on Twitter: "I was like :-(."

Now, the tens of thousands of fans who waited in vain in the rain can rejoice — sort of. They will have a second chance to see the Black Eyed Peas and hear their chant-heavy, electro-infused hip-hop on Sept. 30 in Central Park, the group and city officials announced on Wednesday.

Those who had free tickets to the June concert will be given first chance to claim a ticket for the Sept. 30 concert. Here's the catch: anyone who went to the earlier concert to hear, in addition to Ms. Swift, any of the other performers scheduled that night — Tony Bennett, Carole King, and LL Cool J — might be disappointed.

"At this point it's just a Black Eyed Peas concert," said Katie Schroeder, a spokeswoman for the Robin Hood Foundation, the charity set to benefit from the sale of 6,000 V.I.P. tickets, which start at \$250. "Obviously, if any special friends come about we will announce them."

The rescheduled date was announced by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and the Black Eyed Peas' will.i.am, who spoke on the roof of the Central Park Arsenal.

"I will do everything in my power as mayor to make sure the night of Sept. 30 brings clear skies and a pleasant 72 degrees," Mr. Bloomberg said amid plantings of lamb's ears and chives and black-eyed susans. (There were no black-eyed peas to be

seen.)

Mr. Bloomberg cited the success of past concerts in the park by Simon & Garfunkel, Jon Bon Jovi and Diana Ross.

"I pinch myself," the mayor said. "I happen to know all of those people I just mentioned."

Did he really mention Diana Ross? Could he have

speech, he was shuttled off to the Arsenal's third floor and, rather than stroll through the park to wave at fans, was led out by two bodyguards to a sport utility vehicle parked on Fifth Avenue.

Adrian Benepe, the city's parks commissioner, stuck around, however, and recalled the disappointing



In this photo provided by the Robin hood Foundation, Will.i.am, center, of The Black Eyed Peas, announces Wednesday, Aug 17, 2011, in New York's Central Park that fans who missed out on seeing his group at the park when a June concert was rained out are getting a second chance. The new date for the show in the park's Great Lawn is Sept. 30. Flanking David Saltzman of the Robin Hood Foundation, left, The concert is a benefit for the Robin Hood Foundation, an anti-poverty organization. Flanking Will.i.am are David Saltzman, left, of the Robin Hood Foundation and New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

(AP Photo/Robin hood Foundation, Ann Billingsley)

forgotten what happened during Ms. Ross's 1983 concert in Central Park?

A deluge stopped the concert and then it got worse. Hundreds of concert goers were mauled as they left by what The New York Times called "bands of roving youths."

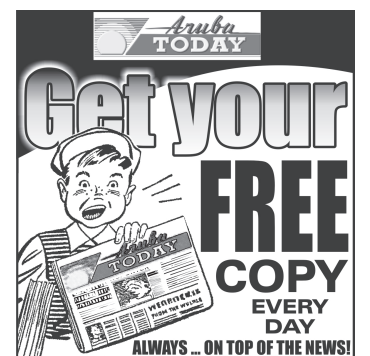
The mayor had to dash off to another event so reporters had no time to ask how familiar he might be with the Black Eyed Peas.

As for will.i.am, he sounded more like a politician than a pop star, despite wearing a suit with leather sleeves and a tan fedora adorned with feathers.

"I don't know how to, where to, begin to tell you how proud I am to be performing here in Central Park for a rescheduled day," he said. After a quick

cancellation of the June concert. "There were kids who had gathered out front, school kids, and they were singing the words of that song," he said, launching into the lyrics: "You know, 'Tonight's gonna be a good night.'"

To let them down had been hard, said Mr. Benepe, who described himself as a "musical omnivore." Of the Black Eyed Peas, he said, "They've got a very catchy bunch of songs." □



It's official:

Jennifer Lopez returning to 'Idol'



Actress and singer Jennifer Lopez arrives at the American Idol Finale in Los Angeles. The Fox network has made Lopez's return official, along with her fellow judges, Aerosmith rocker Steven Tyler and record producer Randy Jackson. In addition, Fox said Wednesday that Ryan Seacrest will be back as host.

(AP Photo/Matt Sayles, file)

NEW YORK (AP) — If there was ever any doubt, it's gone now. Jennifer Lopez will be back at the judge's panel for the 11th season of "American Idol."

The Fox network has made Lopez's return official, along with her fellow judges, Aerosmith rocker Steven Tyler and record producer Randy Jackson. In addition, Fox said Wednesday that Ryan Seacrest will be back as host.

Singer-actress Lopez debuted as a judge this past season. But in recent weeks, she had publicly been coy about whether she would stay with the hit musical competition. Any lingering skepticism was dispelled last week by "Idol" executive producer Nigel Lythgoe. He declared, unofficially, that Lopez would be back while interviewed on Seacrest's radio program.

"American Idol" begins its new season Jan. 22. □

Big Brother's Endemol makes scripted TV push

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Endemol, the Dutch entertainment giant behind hit reality TV shows such as "Big Brother" and "Deal or No Deal," said Wednesday that it is launching a division to produce and finance scripted TV shows in the United States for global distribution. The company, bought by Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi's Mediaset and Goldman Sachs for around \$3.6 billion in 2007, is just getting into the scripted show business. Endemol USA developed an hour-long drama, "Hell on Wheels," set to premiere on AMC on Nov. 6. Endemol has overseas distribution rights. The launch of the new division, Endemol Studios, means that Endemol will now invest money in buying and producing shows, not just develop content while looking for other investors. □

Abercrombie asks 'The Situation' to shop elsewhere

MAE ANDERSON

AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Situation doesn't usually require a lot of motivation to lose the shirt. But Abercrombie & Fitch wants him to go one further — the company has offered to pay "Jersey Shore" cast members to stop wearing clothes carrying their brand.

The preppy teen retailer said Tuesday it would pay a "substantial payment" to Mike "The Situation" Sorrentino or any cast member

retailer tons of publicity during the crucial back-to-school season, the second biggest shopping period of the year. The CEO says it's having fun with the ploy, and marketing experts say the company may wind up laughing all the way to the bank.

"It gets their name further out into the marketplace with one of the hottest brands on TV right now at the peak of the back-to-school season," said Wall Street Strategies analyst

Still, unexpected adaptation can be beneficial. When an urban audience adopted ultra-preppy Tommy Hilfiger clothes, the brand ended up expanding massively. And now Tommy Hilfiger's son even is a rapper.

The cast of "Jersey Shore" don't exactly consist of the kind of role models most brands covet. Now filming its fifth season, the show has won millions of viewers who tune in to watch a group of hard-partying,



Mike "The Situation" Sorrentino, cast member of MTV's "Jersey Shore" stands on a deck overlooking the boardwalk and beach at the home for the show Thursday, Aug. 4, 2011, in Seaside Heights, N.J. The Situation doesn't usually require a lot of motivation to lose the shirt. But Abercrombie & Fitch wants him to go one further — the company has offered to pay "Jersey Shore" cast members to stop wearing clothes carrying their brand.

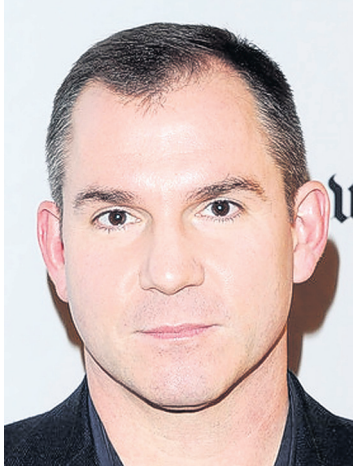
(AP Photo/Mel Evans)

who stops wearing its clothing on the popular MTV reality show because the series is "contrary to the aspirational nature of the brand." "We are deeply concerned that Mr. Sorrentino's association with our brand could cause significant damage to our image," the retailer said in a press release. It may seem strange that a brand that employs half-naked models to stand outside its flagship stores and courted controversy with racy catalogs has come out with such an aggressive campaign against the hard partying cast of "Jersey Shore." But the audacious approach is getting the teen

Brian Sozzi. "It's free marketing. Because the approach is so ridiculous, everybody's talking about it." Brands usually embrace celebrities or performers who adopt their products in an unsolicited, organic way because of all the attention it can drum up. But sometimes they can have an uneasy relationship. When hip hop stars unofficially adopted luxury champagne Cristal as their drink of choice several years ago, for example, the relationship seemed cozy at first. But after a company executive made derogatory comments about hip hop culture, high profile rappers like Jay-Z boycotted it.

foul-mouthed 20- and 30-somethings hanging out, hooking up and behaving raucously. Mike "The Situation" Sorrentino is one of the most popular, and outrageous, cast members, boasting of a "gym-tan-laundry" routine and lifting his shirt to show off his abs at every opportunity. Abercrombie CEO Mike Jeffries said the offer to pay cast members came about when someone alerted him Sorrentino was wearing Abercrombie & Fitch on the show. In an Aug. 11 episode, Sorrentino wears neon green AF-label sweat pants. Abercrombie has not disclosed the offering price. □

Adrift in Iowa: Tired rituals in tough times



FRANK BRUNI

© 2011 New York Times

AMES, Iowa — Was it a debate or a horticultural seminar? The eight Republicans who gathered on a stage in this fecund state last week spoke of the federal government as if it were some monstrous plant, each of them essentially promising to come at it with shears sharper than any rival would wield. Their mantra was cut, cut, cut.

Tim Pawlenty made it clear that homeowners might have a new, inexpensive gardener at their disposal. If they could find a crop of specific entitlement-reform plans anywhere in Obamaland, he said, "I'll come to your house and mow your lawn." It was a cute bit. Problem was, I'd heard it before, two days earlier, when he appeared briefly at a coffee shop in the town of Sully, his campaign Winnebago zooming in, his campaign Winnebago zooming out. Then again, I'd already heard most of what Michele Bachmann and Mitt Romney said at the debate, too. The moderator, Bret Baier, had implored everyone "to put aside the talking points" and "polished lines," but that was like asking aardvarks to go easy on the ants. A species can't be denied its subsistence diet. In advance of Saturday's straw poll here, Republican presidential hopefuls descended on Iowa, traveled its breadth, paid homage to the butter cow at the state fair and provided the most concentrated glimpse of campaign 2012 to date. It was an intensely dispiriting spectacle, because it was an entirely familiar one: the same old same old at a moment of extraordinary global uncertainty and profound national anxiety. Americans are more frightened and pessimistic — and Washington is more dysfunctional — than they've been in a

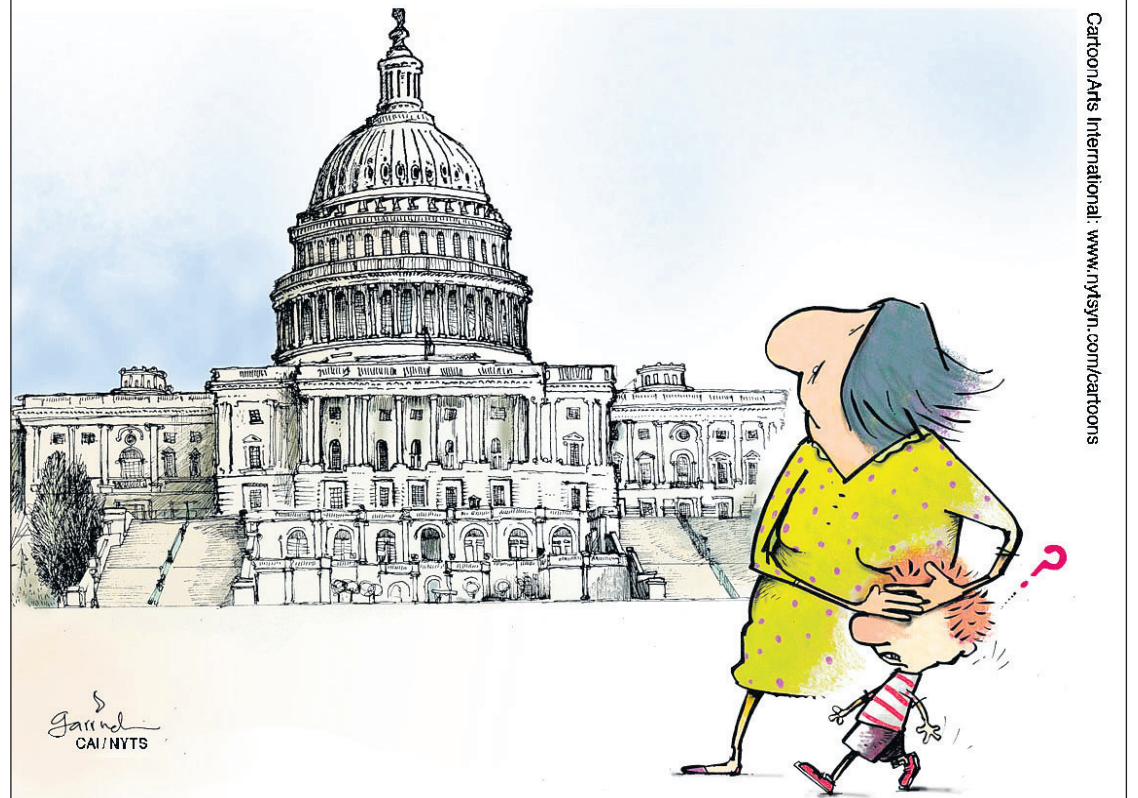
very long time. But the script in Iowa was unchanged.

Photo op followed photo op. Prefabricated one-liners abounded. Strenuously, speciously folksy riffs and poses prevailed. And candidates vying for the opportunity to lead a diverse nation nonetheless played a tired game of Excite the Right, dwelling on their opposition to gay marriage and trumpeting their anti-abortion credentials. Those aren't and can't be the issues this time around. Not with the European debt crisis threatening to become a worldwide contagion, London burning, the Arab world convulsing, the Dow jackhammering and America's crisis of joblessness grinding on and on. Not now. It's time for nobler, smarter, more substantive politics. It's past time, actually. But that's not what Iowa presented.

In Sully, where only about a dozen voters turned out to see him, Pawlenty reached so far for attention-getting metaphors that he landed in a smelly field. Deriding President Barack Obama as someone too quick to dispense blame, he likened him to "a manure spreader in a windstorm." Just hearing the phrase, I wanted to take cover — and a shower. I didn't make it to Rick Santorum's appearance the previous day at a Hy-Vee grocery store in Iowa Falls, but I wish I had, because it was there that he equated gay marriage with both incest and a square, moderately absorbent crumb remover. I'll explain.

Santorum was saying that when you speak of two men or two women as married, you indulge in a fiction. An impossibility. "This is a napkin," he announced in an angry voice, abruptly ripping one from a dispenser and holding it high. "I can call this napkin a paper towel. But it is a napkin. Why? Because it is what it is."

So while someone might assert that "marriage could be between fathers and daughters," he added, "It doesn't make it marriage." Agreed. It makes it a crime, and to mention that in the same breath as same-sex couples is nothing short of appalling. Santorum was competing for the same evangelical voters who seem to have taken such a shine to Bachmann. On Sunday she visited two Iowa churches, the second one in the town



Cartoon/Arts International: www.nyssyn.com/cartoons

of Waukee, where the pastor, Jeff Mullen, told congregants, "we inherently know that homosexual behavior is immoral and unnatural."

"God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness," Mullen said, reading from the book of Romans, according to news reports. His sermon was supplemented by a video in which a man testified to having converted from homosexuality to heterosexuality with God's help. No more gay. All prayed away. Bachmann was investing heavily in a strong finish at the straw poll. She planned to bus supporters there, spring for their \$30 tickets (this is how we elect presidents?) and accommodate them in an air-conditioned tent with free barbecue and live music from Randy Travis. Over at the Herman Cain tent, voters were going to have to make do with live music from ... Mike Huckabee. Bachmann's debate performance was troubling. In her opening remarks, she caromed from senseless to ear-splitting, first saying that her vote against raising the debt ceiling had proved correct and then veritably yelping that Obama would be a one-term president.

But that wasn't the scary part. The scary part was how little distance there was, really, between her and the others on the stage. For all of the agitated sniping between Bachmann and Pawlenty about her legislative record, between Ron Paul and Rick Santorum about Iran, and between Newt Gingrich and the panel of questioners about his al-

leged persecution, there was a stunning ideological uniformity on display. Among the eight candidates, not one brooked the possibility of any tax increases to help solve the debt problem, even though John Boehner, a fiscal conservative, seemed to have a mind partly open to that at the start of the debt-ceiling negotiations.

How can that be? It's because all of the Republican Party is running scared of its super-conservative faction in Congress and because the Republican nominating process rewards a rightward tilt. That remains true this election cycle, to the party's and the country's detriment. Obama is a flawed president confronting epic challenges; he needs to be drawn into a serious conversation with a Republican nominee who represents a plausible alternative, not with someone boxed into a corner. Is that where Romney, the current front-runner, would end up? In Iowa he talked repeatedly about his 25 years in the private sector, and at one point stressed that he spent only four years — his one term as Massachusetts governor — in elective office. It's clear already that the issue of experience will play out in a fascinating way in 2012, with Obama's critics faulting him for too little preparation but trying not to seem like veteran politicians themselves, lest they run afoul of an anti-incumbent mood. Romney walks that fine line by focusing on his career in business. He says it gives him economic chops Obama will never have. Speaking of chops, Romney went to the state fair on Thursday and donned a red

apron to grill pork, because grilling pork is of course a vital part of being commander in chief. He also made remarks from a makeshift stage with bales of hay in the foreground. Bales of hay seem to emerge out of nowhere and creep into the camera frame whenever politicians touch down in farm states, where those politicians tend to talk like they're on "Hee Haw." Over several days I heard Romney say "sure as heck," "fella" and "dam well." I half expected him to take a pitchfork to that hay.

Rick Perry wasn't around, but that didn't preclude a constant discussion of him, my favorite bit of which was a CNN segment in which it was revealed that his father-in-law had performed his vasectomy. I'm not sure where on the spectrum of family values that falls or why voters need to know it. If politicians exhibited some silliness in Iowa, so did reporters. Like hounds heeding a whistle, they swarmed to Sarah Palin when she dropped by the state fair on Friday, again rewarding her coyness about the presidential race with extra-rapt attention. She dithers; we drool.

She was asked if the president was to blame for the nation's credit downgrading, and said yes. "Because from the top, leadership starts from the top, the leadership of our country," she said, syntactical as ever. She was also asked if she was looking for votes. "I'm looking for fried butter on a stick and a fried Twinkie as soon as I can get there," she said. She deserves as much. And we deserve something much, much better. □

Restoring the 'retro house' in the U.S.

STEVEN KURUTZ

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In early 2008, Stephan Edwards bought an apartment in Palm Springs, Ca-

Since Kueber started her website in 2007, it has become the epicenter of a small but devoted group of midcentury design enthusi-

shower floors, how-to tips for cleaning a Saarinen tulip table, where-to-buy guides for dead-stock plumbing fixtures – surfing the blog

she wrote in May, summoning the “Retro Decorating Gods” to save Stickler. In another post, she spotlighted the new Retropolitan refrigerator from Big Chill, a company that makes appliances with vintage styling. The Retropolitan’s look, Kueber helpfully informed readers, is “Jetsons, rather than Donna Reed.”

Kueber started the site after renovating her own midcentury home in Lenox, Mass. “That’s when I got into searching, searching, searching for the right stuff,” she said. It took five years, but finally, on eBay, she located a set of 1960s steel kitchen cabinets in eye-popping aquamarine that is now the centerpiece of her home.

To educate herself on the period, she read old home builder magazines and brochures from the Steel Cabinet Institute and various long-defunct companies (see “A short history of steel kitchen cabinets,” her entry

attracted a handful of advertisers – companies like DEA Bathroom Machinery and Barn Light Electric – that sell products that appeal to vintage enthusiasts. Her anecdotal research, she said, suggests that Retro Renovation readers are much like her, highly visual and results-minded.

“They find me before they close on their house,” Kueber said. “They have to get stuff done.”

What motivates someone to forgo a quick trip to Home Depot in favor of hunting down kitchen cabinets made by a company that went out of business 40 years ago? Kueber offered several explanations. “I think people who are into vintage just love the hunt,” she said. “There’s also a suits-the-house aspect. Then there’s the sheer cost of it. I have plenty of readers who want to pull together a kitchen on the cheap, see this opportunity and go for it.”



Pam Kueber, in her retro kitchen in Lenox, Mass. Retro Renovation, a website started by Kueber in 2007, has become the go-to destination for homeowners who want to restore their homes built during the post-World War II housing boom to the original splendor.

(Nancy Palmieri/The New York Times)

lif., and over the next four months he restored the bathroom, using fixtures dating to circa 1958, the year the building was constructed. When he finished, he sent photos to the one person he knew would truly appreciate his efforts: Pam Kueber at retrorenovation.com.

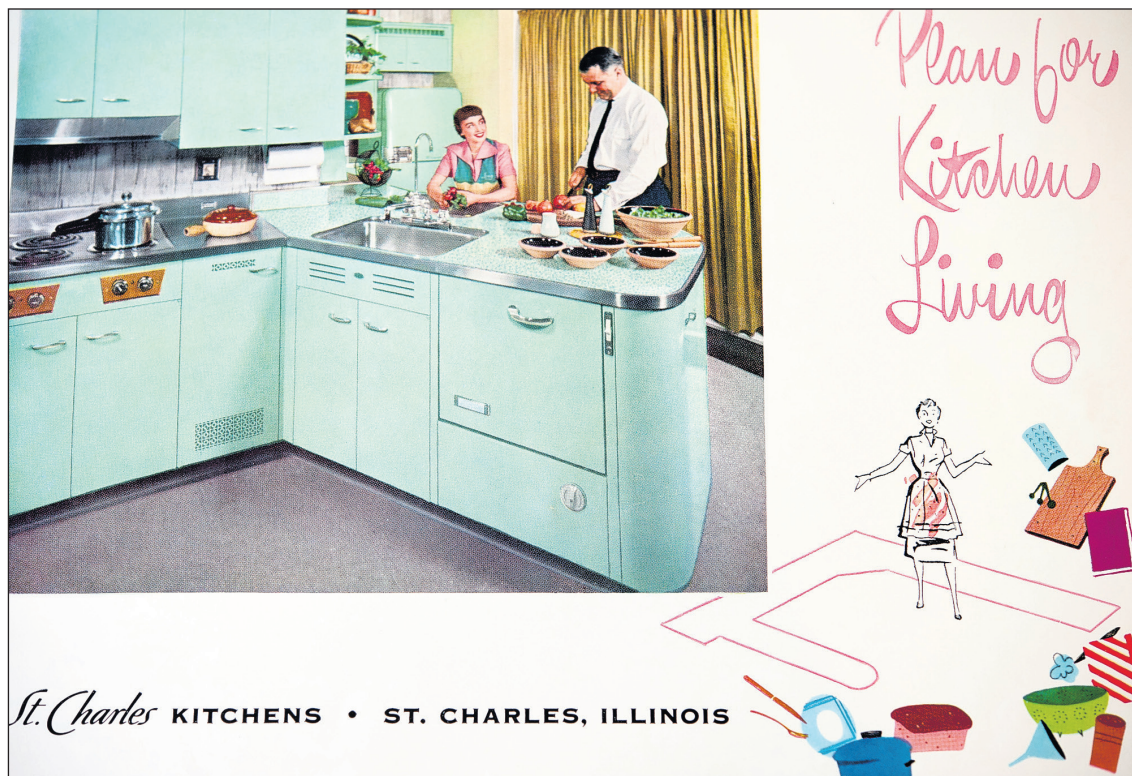
Helen Stickler spent two years trying to assemble a set of vintage steel cabinets for the kitchen in her 1950s post-and-beam house in Los Angeles, but after countless hours of scouring Craigslist, she was still one cabinet short. In desperation, she contacted Kueber, who sent out a plea on her behalf from retrorenovation.com.

With no idea how to go about decorating the pink bathroom in the midcentury home she and her husband had bought in Lexington, Ky., Judi Forston typed “1959 Ranch” into Google. “I thought I’d find something architectural and scholarly about houses built in that era,” Forston said. Instead, she found retrorenovation.com.

asts, a go-to destination for homeowners who spurn the latest decor trends in favor of retiling their bathrooms in turquoise mosaics from the Eisenhower years or installing Dishmaster kitchen faucets whose bulky forms recall those of a late-model Studebaker.

Many of Kueber’s followers live in what she has called “midcentury modest” homes: ranch- or Cape Cod-style houses built during the post-World War II housing boom. And because they grew up in that period, or are appreciative of its aesthetic, they want to restore their homes to something resembling the original splendor.

As Edwards put it: “I’m into the old stuff. I want things to be absolutely authentic.” Being authentic isn’t easy. Hardware, appliances and even furniture sizes have changed significantly in the last 60 years. But Retro Renovation, with its abundant and highly specific information on vintage decor, offers a practical resource for doing the impractical. Old advertisements for terrazzo



A drawing depicts a scene in a kitchen from a mid-century St. Charles Kitchens company brochure, part of a collection owned by Pam Kueber, in Lenox, Mass.

(Nancy Palmieri/The New York Times)

is like visiting a time-warp Home Depot.

Kueber, a 52-year-old corporate communications consultant, dispenses product news, advice and encouragement in a peppy, we’re-in-this-together tone. “Let’s help Helen find her last steel kitchen cabinet!”

on the subject). “This whole pursuit of a retro renovation takes tenaciousness and patience,” she said. “I wanted to do a blog with real resources to get the job done.”

Kueber said the site receives about 450,000 page views a month, and it has

While Kueber is the blog’s resident expert, she shares the spotlight with readers, creating a sense of community. They send in photos of their knotty-pine kitchens and Danish-inspired living rooms, which she posts along with the names of sources they provide. □